

PARIS 2024



Summer McIntosh shows off her latest medals at Canada Olympic House in Paris on Monday. At 17, the swimmer has won a quarter of the country's total gold medals in the sport. SIEGFRIED MODOLA/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

THE MAKING OF McINTOSH

The Olympian who swam her way to history in recent days was already taking shape at a young age

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

When Summer McIntosh was little, her mom found one of her soccer trophies in the garbage.

She was playing in a league in which every player got an award for taking part, no matter the outcome of the match.

But her team hadn't won, and Summer saw no reason why she should be given the same trophy as the winners. She wasn't being bratty; she just didn't want what she hadn't rightfully earned.

"I asked my husband what we should do," Jill McIntosh recalls, remembering how concerned she was at the time.

They decided to leave it alone. They were going to let their daughter be herself.

In that moment, one of Canada's greatest Olympians was already taking shape. It was an early glimpse of the person who has emerged in Paris as one of the country's most successful athletes, not just now, but in history.

Until now, no Canadian has ever won three gold medals at a single Olympics.

"I don't think it's sunk in at all, to be honest. I'm pretty sleep-deprived and tired," Ms. McIntosh said Monday, after nine days of races in which she competed 13 times, won four medals — three golds and a silver — and swam roughly three kilometres combined.

■ McINTOSH, A5

TRACK AND FIELD

For Ukraine, Games provide inspiration on a global stage ■ A5

RUNNING

De Grasse to race without coach as COC withdraws his accreditation ■ A7

Market rout reflects fears of potential U.S. recession, tech pullback

MARK RENDELL

Global stock markets plummeted on Monday as worries mounted that the U.S. economy could be headed for a recession and investors dumped technology stocks and other risky assets.

The S&P 500 fell 3 per cent, while the technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite dropped 3.4 per cent — the biggest one-day declines since September, 2022. Japan's main stock index fell 12.4 per cent, the largest decline since Black Monday in 1987. Canadian markets were closed for the August long weekend.

The market rout, which saw the Dow Jones index tumble more than 1,000 points, or 2.6 per cent, reflects a sudden shift in narrative about the American economy. After weaker-than-expected U.S. employment data last week, investors have become concerned that the Federal Reserve has miscalculated and held interest rates too high for too long, jeopardizing a soft landing for the world's largest economy.

These fears about the economy are blending with waning enthusiasm for large-cap technology stocks, which powered much of the growth in U.S. equity markets this year based on excitement about artificial intelligence.

Meanwhile, in Japan, a sharp rise in the yen in recent weeks has dampened the prospects for Japanese exporters and forced global traders to unwind positions that were based on a weak Japanese exchange rate.

■ RECESSION, A6

Investors speculate on whether Fed could take emergency action ■ B1

How a pair of provincial efforts helped stem Windsor's nursing exodus

KELLY GRANT HEALTH REPORTER

As Melissa Mastroianni prepared to finish nursing school, she knew she would have more job options than most health care workers in mid-sized Canadian cities.

That's because Ms. Mastroianni, a University of Windsor student who wanted to start her career close to home, could choose to live in Windsor and work in Detroit, where prominent research hospitals have always been eager to hire Canadian nurses.

Despite the lure of a salary paid in American dollars, Ms. Mastroianni accepted a job on the oncology unit at Windsor Regional Hospital before she graduated in May.

Her decision was influenced by two COVID-era provincial government programs that have helped reduce the nursing vacancy rate at Windsor Regional to its lowest level since before the pandemic, and which could serve as solutions for hospitals elsewhere in Canada looking to beef up their nursing ranks as they recover from the worst of the pandemic.

As of April 1, just 2.7 per cent of registered nursing jobs were vacant at Windsor Regional, the only acute-care hospital network in the city of 230,000. That was down from a high of 12.5 per cent in 2021. At one point during the pandemic, 28.5 per cent of registered nurse jobs in the emergency department were vacant.

■ NURSING, A6

Was the Jasper fire fuelled by a storm it created? Investigators race to understand a growing threat

IVAN SEMENIUK SCIENCE REPORTER

In the aftermath of the devastating wildfire that destroyed one-third of the town of Jasper, Alta., two weeks ago, Parks Canada says it has been working with wildfire researchers to understand how the disaster unfolded and what it may portend for communities battling future extreme fires.

It took less than three days from the time the Jasper wildfire started until it engulfed the town. As investigators come to grips with the shocking speed of events, one of the questions they face is what role

pyrocumulonimbus clouds, or pyroCbs, played in accelerating the worst fire in the park's 117-year history.

These towering storm clouds are the by-products of extreme wildfires and meteorological conditions. Driven by intense heat, air rises rapidly above the fire, creating a chimney effect. When it encounters colder air higher up, the atmosphere can become unstable, causing downdrafts and a vertical circulation that is similar to what happens inside a classic thunderstorm.

The air rising at the centre of the formation can send smoke and burning embers upward and outward for many kilometres.

While the phenomenon has been recognized for years, pyroCbs have more recent-

ly become a focus for wildfire researchers because their occurrence in fire-prone regions appears to be growing — nowhere more than in Canada.

"Canada seems to be the global hot spot," said Richard Carr, a fire research analyst with the Canadian Forest Service, based in Edmonton. "We probably had about 80 per cent of the world's pyroCbs last year, and in a lot of years we tend to have the most."

While pyroCbs only form in a small fraction of Canadian wildfires, those fires tend to be the most destructive.

The cause of the Jasper wildfires still remains under investigation.

■ PYROCBS, A4



BANGLADESH

PM resigns after 15-year rule, flees country amid continuing violence

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RAJIB DHAR/AP

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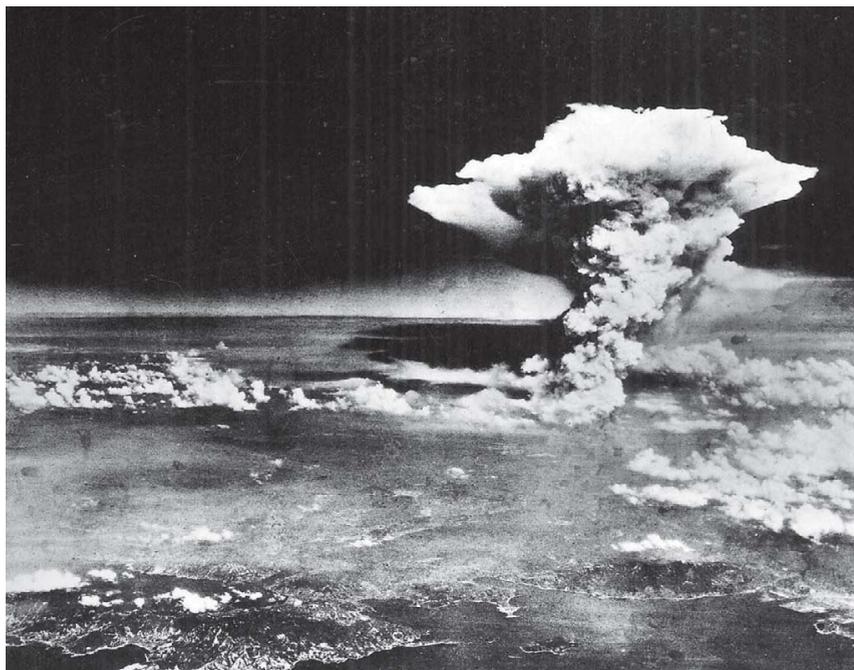
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MOMENT IN TIME

AUG. 6, 1945 | FROM THE ARCHIVES



An aerial view of Hiroshima shows the city shortly after the Little Boy atomic bomb was dropped. UNIVERSAL HISTORY ARCHIVE/UGC VIA GETTY IMAGES

U.S. DROPS ATOM BOMB ON HIROSHIMA

At 8:15 a.m. local time, an American B-29 bomber unleashed the world's first nuclear strike, hastening the end of the Second World War and utterly destroying a city and its people. The bomb, nicknamed Little Boy – the product of a top-secret U.S. program in collaboration with Canada and Britain – instantly killed more than 70,000 Japanese, melted the eyes of unlucky soldiers patrolling Hiroshima and baked unharvest-

ed potatoes into the ground, according to author John Hersey. Another 70,000 later died of radiation, burns and injuries. The 65th anniversary of the bombing in 2010 marked the first time an American representative attended memorial services in Japan. Attendees made offerings of water – in the days after the bombing, as black rain poured from the sky, many died from dehydration and thirst.

JESSICA LEEDER (2011)

COLUMNISTS

ANDRÉ
PICARD

OPINION



FIRST
PERSON

KEAN
BIRCH

OPINION

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Joel Diebolt realizes he learned a lot about parenting from his own father ■ A13

The Big Tech sell-off on global markets suggests the generative AI bubble is finally bursting ■ B4

Tropical Storm Debby hits Florida with floods, threat of record rain in Georgia, the Carolinas

KIMBERLY CHANDLER
CHRISTOPHER O'NEARA TAMPA

Tropical Storm Debby slammed Florida with catastrophic flooding and was blamed for at least four deaths, with Georgia and South Carolina next in line as the system rips across the southeastern United States.

Record-setting rain was forecast to cause flash flooding in coastal Georgia and South Carolina, and into North Carolina, with up to 76 centimetres of rainfall in some areas, the National Hurricane Center said. Debby had made landfall early Monday as a Category 1 hurricane over the Gulf Coast of Florida.

The tropical storm was moving slowly across Florida, covering roads with water and contributing to at least four deaths.

A truck driver died on Interstate 75 in the Tampa area after he lost control of his tractor-trailer, which flipped over a concrete wall and dangled over the edge before the cab dropped into the water below. Sheriff's office divers located the driver, a 64-year-old man from Mississippi, in the cab 12 metres below the surface, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

A 13-year-old boy died Monday morning after a tree fell on a mobile home located southwest of Gainesville, according to the Levy County Sheriff's Office.

And in Dixie County, just east of where the storm made landfall, a 38-year-old woman and 12-year-old boy died in a car crash on wet roads Sunday night. The Florida Highway Patrol said a 14-year-old boy who was a passenger was hospitalized with serious injuries.

More than 300,000 customers remained without power in Florida and Georgia on Monday afternoon, down from a peak of more than 350,000, according to PowerOutage.us and Georgia Electric Membership Corp.

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis said some 17,000 linemen were working to restore electricity. He warned residents in affected areas to sit tight until conditions were



Rain and storm surge from Tropical Storm Debby flood a street in Cedar Key, Fla., on Monday. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

safe. "When the water rises, when you have streets that can be flooded, that's hazardous," Mr. DeSantis said. "Don't try to drive through this. We don't want to see traffic fatalities adding up."

Airports were also affected. More than 1,600 flights had been cancelled nationwide; many of them to and from Florida airports, according to FlightAware.com. One out of every five flights scheduled to leave Orlando International Airport was cancelled Monday. Nearly 30 per cent of flights scheduled to depart Tampa International Airport were cancelled.

Sarasota, Fla., a beach city popular with tourists, was one of the hardest hit by flooding.

"Essentially we've had twice the amount of the rain that was predicted for us to have," said Sarasota County Fire Chief David Rathbun in a social-media update.

The storm made landfall early Monday morning near Steinhatchee, a tiny community in northern Florida of less than 1,000 residents.

Taylor County, where Steinhatchee is located, closed several roads because of flooding, Sheriff Wayne Padgett said. Trees and power lines had also fallen across some roads. Mr. Padgett advised anyone who evacuated from low-lying or coastal areas to wait be-

fore returning to their homes because the tide had not come in, and it was unclear how deep flood waters might get later.

U.S. President Joe Biden was briefed on Debby's progress while at his home in Wilmington, Del., the White House said.

Vice-President Kamala Harris has postponed a scheduled trip to Georgia amid the continuing effects of Tropical Storm Debby. Ms. Harris's campaign said her stop planned in Savannah, Ga., on Thursday, was being put off because of the storm.

On Monday, local leaders in Savannah said flooding could happen in areas that don't usually get high water if Debby stalls out over the city.

North Carolina and South Carolina have dealt with three catastrophic floods from tropical systems in the past nine years.

In 2015, rainfall fed by moisture as Hurricane Joaquin passed well offshore caused massive flooding.

In 2016, flooding from Hurricane Matthew caused 24 deaths in the two states and rivers set record crests. Those records were eclipsed in 2018 with Hurricane Florence, which set rainfall records, flooded many of the same places and was responsible for 42 deaths in North Carolina and nine in South Carolina.

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Bangladesh's PM resigns, flees country

Departure comes after weeks of protests against quota system for government jobs that turned violent

JULHAS ALAM
KRUTIKA PATHI
DHAKA, BANGLADESH

Bangladesh's Prime Minister resigned and fled the country Monday after weeks of protests against a quota system for government jobs descended into violence and grew into a broader challenge to her 15-year rule. Thousands of demonstrators stormed her official residence and other buildings associated with her party and family.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's departure threatens to create even more instability in the densely populated nation on India's border that is already dealing with a series of crises, from high unemployment to corruption to climate change. Amid security concerns, the main airport in Dhaka, the capital, suspended operations.

Violence just before and after her resignation left at least 41 people dead and about 200 others injured, according to media reports, which could not be independently confirmed. More than a dozen were reportedly killed when protesters set fire to a hotel owned by a leader in Ms. Hasina's party in the southwestern town of Jashore.

The military chief, General Waker-uz-Zaman said he was temporarily taking control of the country, and soldiers tried to stem the growing unrest. Mohammed Shahabuddin, the country's figurehead president, announced late Monday after



Anti-government protesters display Bangladesh's national flag as they storm Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's palace in Dhaka on Monday. K M ASAD/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

meeting with Gen. Zaman and opposition politicians that Parliament would be dissolved and a national government would be formed as soon as possible, leading to fresh elections.

Speaking after the beleaguered leader was seen in television footage boarding a military helicopter with her sister, Gen. Zaman sought to reassure a jittery nation that order would be restored. Experts, though, warned the road ahead would be long.

Hundreds of thousands of people poured into the streets waving flags and cheering to celebrate Ms. Hasina's resignation. But some celebrations soon turned violent, with protesters attacking symbols of her government and party, ransacking and setting fires in several buildings.

"This is not just the end of the

tyrant Sheikh Hasina, with this we put an end to the mafia state that she has created," declared Sairaj Salekin, a student protester, on the streets of Dhaka.

Protests began peacefully last month as frustrated students demanded an end to a quota system for government jobs that they said favoured those with connections to the Prime Minister's Awami League party. But amid a deadly crackdown, the demonstrations morphed into an unprecedented challenge to Ms. Hasina, highlighting the extent of economic distress in Bangladesh, where exports have fallen and foreign exchange reserves are running low.

Gen. Zaman promised that the military would launch an investigation into a crackdown that had left nearly 300 people dead since

mid-July, some of the country's worst bloodshed since the 1971 war of independence, and which had fuelled outrage against the government. Nearly 100 people, including 14 policemen, were killed Sunday, according to the country's leading Bengali-language daily newspaper, Prothom Alo. At least 11,000 people have been arrested in recent weeks.

The military wields significant political influence in Bangladesh, which has faced more than 20 coups or coup attempts since independence in 1971. But it was not clear if Ms. Hasina's resignation or the military chief's calls for calm would be enough to end the turmoil.

Nahid Islam, a top student coordinator, told reporters late Monday that the movement would propose an outline for the

new interim government – and they would not accept any other solution.

Throughout the day, people continued to pour into and out of Ms. Hasina's official residence, where they set fires, carried out furniture and pulled raw fish from the refrigerators. They also massed outside the parliament building, where a banner reading "justice" was hung.

Crowds also ransacked Ms. Hasina's family's ancestral home-turned-museum where her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman – the country's first president and independence leader – was assassinated. They torched major offices of the ruling party and the country's two leading, pro-government TV stations – both of which were forced to go off air.

Elsewhere, protests were peaceful, and thousands gathered Monday evening outside the presidential palace, where the military chief, opposition politicians and the country's figurehead president met.

Ms. Hasina, meanwhile, landed in a city in India on the border with Bangladesh, according to a military official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information to the media. It was not clear where she would go next.

The 76-year-old was elected for a fourth consecutive term in a January vote that was boycotted by her main opponents. Thousands of opposition members were jailed in the lead-up to the polls, and the U.S. and Britain denounced the result as not credible, though the government defended it. United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres urged a peaceful transition, according to a statement from UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bangladeshi Canadians cautiously celebrate resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

ESTELLA REN

It was a sleepless night for Mehnaz Tabassum and her husband at their Toronto home as they closely followed the news in Bangladesh, where student protests have turned deadly in the past few weeks.

Around 4:30 a.m. on Monday, the Bangladeshi Canadian received a phone call from her brother-in-law back home and heard him screaming: "We won, we won."

She jumped out of bed, turned on a YouTube live-streaming channel and saw hundreds of thousands of people out on the street in Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka, celebrating the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who fled the country after 15 years in power that have been marred by accusations of repression.

"I feel very relieved," said Ms. Tabassum, a PhD student at Western University. "I just sat down on the couch, because I was just like, 'Oh my God, this actually happened without any further insane bloodshed this morning,' which was something we were really, really, really scared of."

The protests that began in June with students peacefully demanding reforms to the government-job quota system had morphed into a national uprising against Ms. Hasina, after the government cracked down with force. At least 11,000 people have been arrested and 300 people were killed in recent weeks.

It has not been easy for Ms. Tabassum to get hold of her family, as Bangladesh's internet has been cut off by authorities at times. She said she was particularly worried about her elder sister, Fahima Tabassum, a professor at Jahangirnagar University, who was among other teachers and parents traumatized by the attack on her students on campus.

The last message Ms. Tabassum received from her sister on Sunday night was asking her to pray for them and hope they would make it through the next day, when protesting students were calling on people from across the country to march to Dhaka to force Ms. Hasina to resign.

After she stepped down Monday, Bangladesh's army chief, General Waker-uz-Zaman, announced that an interim government will be formed and that the deaths of protesters will be investigated. People cheered and waved flags, defying a military curfew and storming the Prime Minister's residence.

In Toronto, at least 50 Bangladesh community members had a celebration in Dentonia Park around 5 a.m., chanting slogans and singing after they heard the news. They have organized daily protests in the park that houses the Shaheed Minar, the monument to commemorate those killed during the Bengali Language Movement demonstrations of 1952 in then-East Pakistan, which gained independence as Bangla-



Mehnaz Tabassum, a PhD student at Western University, has been following the news in Bangladesh closely. She has had difficulty contacting family back home as internet access in Bangladesh has been cut off by authorities at times.

desh in 1971.

"We are feeling very much happy. We are very much excited. We're feeling like we got the independence for the second time. Now no one is afraid of raising their voices," said Md. Mustafizur Rahman, who just graduated from Centennial College as an international student.

Another international student, Saqlain Rizve, also went to Dentonia Park in the early morning and said she exchanged messages with family members back home who were overwhelmed with joy about how they celebrated the victory in different parts of the globe.

The night before, Ms. Rizve and Mr. Rahman organized a solidarity protest along Danforth Avenue. Ms. Rizve said she feared a massacre in Bangladesh on Monday and worried about whether her marching friends would be able to return home.

"I'm terrified that this might happen to my family. However, my family and me, we never cared. We are really daring. We would be like, okay, die for my country," she said, adding that her father was often on the front line of the protest and made their home a shelter for protesters to rest.

While Bangladeshis in Canada are excited about the victory back home, they also worry about whether the new government would bring the justice and peace the people hoped for.

Mr. Rahman said he heard some current members of Parliament in Bangladesh may flee the country, and he called

on Ottawa to ban them from entering Canada.

"The people of Bangladesh don't want to live in the same place as those who have killed innocent children, like students as little as six years old, to 24 years old. We don't want the Canadian government to allow them to enter into Canada to give them a safe exit," he said.

Saad Hammadi, a fellow at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in Waterloo, Ont., said that, while the interim government faces challenges to recovering the state and the economy, "the only way to get out of this volatile situation is by ensuring people's participation in the decision-making process, transitioning to a democratically elected, transparent and accountable government at the earliest."

But a more immediate demand among protesters is accountability for the Hasina government's deadly response to their demonstrations.

"It's just not the end yet. We still have to get a proper trial for those who have been killed. We still have to have those who actually were the attackers being brought under proper judgment," Ms. Rizve said.

Mr. Hammadi said the new government has the opportunity to bring perpetrators to justice by proactively inviting the United Nations to form a commission of inquiry and extending its full co-operation with the procedure – adding that the international community must press for the same.

Hezbollah says it launched a drone attack on northern Israel

The Lebanese militant group Hezbollah said it launched a drone attack early Monday on northern Israel that the Israeli military said wounded two Israeli troops.

The violence came amid fears of an all-out regional war after the killings last week of a senior Hezbollah commander in Lebanon and Hamas's top political leader in Iran.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah said it targeted a military base in northern Israel in response to "attacks and assassinations" by Israel in several villages in southern Lebanon. The attack did not appear to be the more intense retaliation expected from Iran and its allied militias.

Israel and Hezbollah have exchanged near-daily strikes for the past 10 months during the war in Gaza. But last week's assassinations of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and Hezbollah commander Fouad Shukur in Beirut sent regional tensions soaring.

The head of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard threatened Israel on Monday over the assassination of Mr. Haniyeh, warning that Israel was "digging its own grave" with its actions against Hamas.

Israel's Defence Minister says the military is ready for a "swift transition to offence."

The White House meanwhile said Monday that President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris were briefed by their national-security team on U.S. military efforts to support Israel and U.S. military forces in case of another attack by Iran and its proxies.

The briefing included a discussion of diplomatic efforts to reduce regional tensions and finalize a possible agreement for a ceasefire and hostage release.

The Israeli military said Monday it had killed another Hezbollah commander in a drone strike on south Lebanon.

The Israeli army said the Monday evening strike in the southern village of Ebaa killed Ali Jama'eddine Jawad, whom it described as a local commander with Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force. Lebanon's state news agency reported earlier that a drone strike targeted a motorcycle in Ebaa, killing one person and wounding another.

Hezbollah later released a photo of Mr. Jawad confirming his death without giving details about his job within the group.

Since Hezbollah started attacking Israeli military posts along the border in early October, more than 500 people have been killed in Lebanon, most of them Hezbollah members.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jasper residents take in damage during tour

Trudeau receives briefing at command centre, meets with fire crews and evacuees

ALANNA SMITH

Dozens of Jasper residents returned home for the first time since a wildfire tore through their community to see the wreckage firsthand on Monday, while Alberta Premier Danielle Smith asked Ottawa for support to aid the town's recovery.

Ms. Smith, during a news conference, said 62 people loaded into three buses to tour Jasper, some of whom had to confront the reality that their homes had been damaged or completely destroyed by the blaze.

Business owners have separately been allowed to enter Jasper with an escort to assess the damage and needed repairs as required by insurance companies. More than 350 residential structures have been lost within the town, Ms. Smith added.

"Once re-entry is possible, we will need to tackle many urgent priorities to ensure the needs of residents are being met," she said, adding that temporary housing will take precedence and that it will be essential for the federal government to do its part.

"Not only is that going to be important for the residents that lost their homes, but also the seasonal workers, and on top of that, all the work force that is going to be needed to help rebuild."

Ms. Smith was joined by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau earlier on Monday to visit the Jasper wildfire command centre in Hinton. The pair received a situational briefing by leaders of the command unit, including Parks Canada. Mr. Trudeau was expected to meet with fire crews and evacuees during his visit but not tour the town of Jasper itself.

An emergency wage subsidy for Jasperites was among the requests made by Ms. Smith to Mr. Trudeau, in addition to the suspension of lease payments for a few months to help businesses avoid layoffs and additional funding from the federal Housing Accelerator Fund so that Jasper can



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, third from left, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith, fourth from right, and other officials have a moment of silence Monday at the wildfire command centre in Hinton, Alta., for a firefighter who died over the weekend. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

take on extra land-planning responsibilities.

"I also made it clear that working together will only become more imperative as we look to recovery after the fires," Ms. Smith said. "In fact, we heard this reiterated many times by those in command, that the integration of all three levels of government has been one of the finest examples of us working together on these kinds of incidents and they hoped that it would become the standard."

The tours are escorted by police and residents are not allowed to exit the bus. Mental-health support workers are onboard for support as needed.

Mr. Trudeau, on X (formerly Twitter) following their meeting, posted: "We're making sure Alberta has everything they need to respond to these fires and help rebuild Jasper."

An estimated 25,000 people, including residents and visitors, were forced to evacuate the town of Jasper and surrounding area on July 22, two days before a fast-moving fire ripped through the town. The blaze is still burning out of control in the area, estimated at about 34,000 hectares in size, but is no longer an

immediate threat to the townsite.

Tours of Jasper were postponed to Monday out of respect for a 24-year-old firefighter who died over the weekend while battling the wildfire. The fallen firefighter, who lived in Calgary, was struck by a falling tree on Saturday. His identity has not been released.

More than 560 residents have so far registered for a tour of Jasper, Ms. Smith said on Monday. The tours are escorted by police and residents are not allowed to exit the bus. Mental-health support workers are onboard for support as needed.

Parks Canada has said operators of critical services and critical retail, such as gas stations, grocery stores, pharmacies and schools, were also expected to visit their sites starting Monday for initial damage assessments. The agency explained the visits would help get those services restarted quickly, once conditions allow for the safe return of residents.

Ms. Smith said she met with some evacuees on Monday. She described speaking to a couple who had just rebuilt their home a few years ago only for it to be burned down again but said they were in surprisingly good spirits.

"There's a real sense of 'let's get on with this, let's get on with rebuilding,'" the Premier said. "I think there's a lot of real hope."

With a report from The Canadian Press

B.C. officials warn of dangers around Fraser, Chilcotin River banks

VANCOUVER

The B.C. government says it's "extremely unsafe" to be near the banks of the Chilcotin and Fraser rivers both upstream and downstream from a massive landslide after water started flowing through the slide early Monday.

Emergency Management Minister Bowinn Ma said Monday that the water breaching the dam caused by the slide will cause river bank instability, although the chances of a worst-case scenario are "decreasing."

Ms. Ma says people should stay away and off the waters as officials monitor the flow downstream of the slide, which may affect the Farewell Canyon Bridge, about 22 kilometres downstream.

Evacuation alerts and orders along the rivers are not just about residential properties, she said.

"It is also about people recreating on the water or along the waterways," Ms. Ma said at a briefing Monday. "We need people to leave those areas, to not put their boats down, to not go down to take a look at the water, to not engage in recreation activities anywhere along the Chilcotin River or the Fraser River right now."

Officials said about 15 properties in the Cariboo and Thompson River Regional Districts are on evacuation order or alert.

Connie Chapman with the province's water management branch said the "pulse" of water from the dam breach will likely erode river banks, and carry debris from the slide.

She said the water started flowing through the debris slide, cutting about a 15-metre channel through the dam, and then began widening with water flows increasing by the hour.

She said some places along the rivers will see higher than spring runoff levels and cause the rivers to swell downstream in the coming days.

Ms. Chapman said officials will be monitoring debris in the "big pulse of water" now flowing downstream from the site of the slide.

An emergency alert issued by the province Monday said anyone along the banks of the rivers from Hanceville to the Fraser River, down to the Gang Ranch Road Bridge south of Williams Lake, must leave. Flooding and moving debris pose "a threat to human life," the alert said.

Images posted online by the province, and aerial footage over the slide site, show water getting through the massive slide.

The provincial government estimates the landslide that dammed the river is 1,000 metres long, 600 metres wide and 30 metres deep.

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District said all private properties within 300 metres of the banks of the Fraser River are on evacuation alert, including four addressed properties adjacent to the river, including two properties on Big Bar Road, one on Empire Valley-Big Bar Road and another on Watson Bar Road.

The Tsilhqot'in National Government said in a social-media post that people should also avoid river banks that were submerged by the lake that formed behind the slide. Tsilhqot'in Chief Joe Alphonse said the water backed up enough to start carving a path through the slide debris, and effects on upcoming salmon runs remain his nation's biggest concern.

B.C. officials issued an evacuation order Sunday night for an area just north of where the Chilcotin River meets the Fraser River because of the danger of flooding caused by the landslide.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PyroCbs: Study to characterize clouds' behaviour to include flying into and over them

FROM A1

Eyewitness accounts and other observations suggest it was started on July 22 by multiple lightning strikes to the north and south of the town, which sits at an intersection point of mountain valleys running through Jasper National Park.

In the south, three fires merged and rapidly advanced toward the town, aided by strong winds moving in the same direction. That wind, with gusts estimated at 125 to 150 kilometres an hour, "far exceeded forecasts," Michelle Macullo, a fire information officer with Parks Canada, told The Globe and Mail.

By July 24, the north and south fires were joined and the town was in flames, only one day after some 25,000 residents and visitors were evacuated.

Satellite imagery and other evidence from Jasper suggest that two pyroCbs formed as the fire grew.

"In the grand scheme of pyroCbs, they weren't huge," said David Peterson, a meteorologist with the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Monterey, Calif. However, he added those storm systems could still have affected the progress of the fire.

This conclusion is supported by additional evidence from the ground.

One photo of the Jasper fire, posted on the park's Facebook page on July 24, shows a bright, white cloud reaching up above columns of billowing smoke as the leading edge of the fire approaches the deserted town.

Mike Flannigan, a fire weather scientist and professor at Thompson Rivers University in



A photo on the Jasper National Park Facebook page on July 24 shows smoke rising from a wildfire burning to the south of Jasper following the town's evacuation. A bright white cloud visible behind the smoke may be the top of a pyrocumulonimbus — a storm cloud generated by the fire. JASPER NATIONAL PARK/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Kamloops, said that while it is not possible to be completely certain based on a single photo, the white cloud is "probably the top of the pyroCb."

As a pyroCb develops, it can start new spot fires in the surrounding area, either through embers drifting back to the ground farther afield, or through lightning generated within the storm cloud itself. PyroCbs are also associated with erratic winds that generate thick clouds of smoke, reducing visibility and making the fire harder to see and combat on the ground and from the air.

All of this is of concern to analysts who use computer models to forecast fire behaviour. Once a pyroCb is in the mix, a fire can

become less predictable, and its rate of spread is less likely to be reflected in models designed to show how fire moves across a particular landscape driven by external winds and fuel availability.

Even so, there's no question those other factors still played a big role in Jasper. A study published last year in the journal *Natural Hazards* ranked the town third on a list of Alberta communities most at risk from wind-driven fires.

According to Jen Beverly, a fire researcher at the University of Alberta who co-authored the study, the fire that blazed its way into Jasper was aided by a continuous path of flammable fuels combined with hot, dry conditions and extreme winds. In short, she

added, "a perfect storm played out."

The question is whether the pyroCbs associated with the Jasper fire pushed this volatile combination even further off the charts of expected behaviour and what that means for other communities who are taking preventative measures and preparing emergency plans.

To better address such questions, Dr. Peterson and colleagues recently launched a five-year NASA-funded study that will include flying aircraft into and over pyroCbs to characterize their behaviour.

The team is in active discussion with Canadian officials to establish one of its sites in Cold Lake, Alta., or a similar northern

location where aircraft bristling with sensors can be quickly deployed to study a developing pyroCb as early as the summer of 2026.

Dr. Peterson said the results will be important for those living well beyond Canada's fire zones because the largest pyroCbs can elevate smoke to a level where they are taken up by high-altitude winds and then spread for thousands of kilometres.

In some cases, pyroCbs can send material up to the stratosphere where they can interact with the ozone layer and produce large-scale effects on the global climate. This was documented in research on pyroCbs that formed over Canada in 2017 and over Australia in 2020.

Contrary to expectations, last year's record-breaking Canadian wildfire season — which included 123 pyroCbs — did not have the same impact, according to a new study by an MIT-based team that is still undergoing peer review.

"It's still not clear why that is," said Selena Zhang, a doctoral student who led the study.

Dr. Peterson said such results illustrate the point that the study of pyroCbs and their impact are still in their infancy, even as they become more prevalent in a warming world.

For Dr. Carr, pyroCbs also highlight the urgent race under way in Canada between fire scientists using the latest computational and observation tools to understand the complex nature of wildfire and a global climate change driving fire behaviour into novel territory.

"One of the challenges is trying to outpace the changes," Dr. Carr said.

YUKON ENVIRONMENT MINISTER CLARKE IN HOSPITAL AFTER CRASH KILLS DEPUTY

WHITEHORSE Yukon Environment Minister Nils Clarke remains in hospital after he was injured Friday in a car crash that killed deputy environment minister Michael Prochazka.

Premier Ranj Pillai issued the update on Mr. Clarke's condition in a news release today.

Mr. Pillai says Mr. Clarke was injured in a two-vehicle collision that resulted in the death

of Mr. Prochazka.

The Premier says Mr. Clarke, who is also Minister for Highways and Public Works, is in a Vancouver hospital and is hopeful he will make a full

recovery.

Until Mr. Clarke is ready to return to work, Richard Mostyn will be acting minister of highways and public works and John Strecker will be acting

minister of environment.

Mr. Pillai earlier paid tribute to Mr. Prochazka as a devoted public servant who was passionate about conservation and nature. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ukrainians rekindle hope with Olympics

The country won three medals within a few hours of each other at various track and field events

PAUL WALDIE PARIS, FRANCE
ANNA VLASENKO KHARKIV, UKRAINE

Most countries enjoy at least one special moment at the Olympics, when their athletes exceed expectations or win multiple medals in one session. For Ukraine, that moment came Sunday night.

Over the course of a couple of hours at the Stade de France, Ukrainian athletes won three medals in track and field. First came bronze in women's high jump, then gold in the same event, then bronze in men's hammer throw.

By the time the last medal was won, 70,000 spectators were on their feet applauding, and Olympic officials had ignored protocol and let the three Ukrainians run across the field for a group hug, each draped in the country's blue and yellow national flag.

More than 2,400 kilometres away in Kyiv, Olha Hvozdzykova was among the millions of Ukrainians who were cheering along with the crowds in Paris. Sunday was the most successful day yet at the Olympics for Ukraine, which now has seven medals — two gold, two silver and three bronze.

"Every victory in this most difficult period is very important for Ukraine and for me personally," Ms. Hvozdzykova said after watching the athletes take their victory lap online. "It will be an inspiration for the further struggle of our athletes — both those at the stadium in Paris and those who are now defending our country on the battlefield."

For a country that's more than two years into a war with Russia, the Olympics have offered a distraction and a chance to remind the world of what Ukraine is going through. That message wasn't lost on the three medalists, who each said their success in Paris represented far more than individual accomplishments.

"In my country, Russia killed people," said high jump winner Yaroslava Mahuchikh, 22, who holds the world record in the event. "Almost 500 sportsmen died in this war, and they will never compete. They will never celebrate. They will never feel this atmosphere. So, I'm happy with the gold medal, and it's really for all of them."

Ukrainians have been following the Games as much as possible. Air-raid sirens make it difficult to gather in pubs or open spaces to share the excitement collectively, so most people follow the competitions online.

Officials in Kyiv have managed to set up an outdoor fan zone in the Expocentre of Ukraine, a sprawling Soviet-era exhibition complex in the southwestern part of the city. Last week, a few dozen people took up seats on beanbags to watch tennis on a giant screen.

"We follow all the events that are happening, rejoice at successes and grieve at failures," said Roksolana Dovhanynets, 32, who was among the onlookers.

She's a coach and deputy director of a children's sports school and said it's been hard to keep kids active since the war started. "There is a lot of anxiety now. Children have been in shelters for a long time, and there is not much room to move," she said. "But now they have to come to life, because there is an example of athletes who did not give up during the war and managed to reach the Olympics."

Sergiy Stakhovsky, 38, does his best to follow the Games from the front line whenever he can find an internet connection. He gave up his tennis career and joined the army after Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022 and is now part of the Security Services Centre of Special Operations "A."

He had dreams of competing in the Olympics and can only imagine what it would have been like to compete on the clay courts of Roland Garros, where the tennis matches were held. "Russia changed the plans in the lives of many Ukrainians with its brazen invasion. And mine changed too," he said in an interview last week from an undisclosed location.

Even non-sports fans have come to see the Paris Games as more than an athletic endeavour. "I believe that in principle Ukraine should participate in them, because we have to be heard everywhere, all over the world. We have to be seen," said Viktoriia Doroshenko, 27, who never had much interest in the Olympics before the war but was among those in the fan zone last week. "Because if we all fold our arms and sit there, or if we all talk only about the war, I think the world will forget about it very quickly."

As the fighting drags on and international attention wanes, Ukrainian officials have been keen to use the Olympics as a platform to boost public awareness. They've set up a Ukrainian House at the Games called "Volia," which means freedom and will.

The venue is filled with books, pamphlets and presentations about the war and includes a section of battered seats from a stadium in Kharkiv that was destroyed by Russian shelling. There's also a spacious area with a big television screen, and on Sunday roughly 2,000 people jammed into the house to watch the athletics events, said Taras Bervetskiy, a 19-year-old volunteer who came to France from Lviv shortly after Russia's invasion.

The reality of the war is never far from every Ukrainian, including the country's Olympians. For some athletes, the end of the competition in Paris could mean heading off to battle.

Mykhaylo Kokhan, who won bronze in the hammer throw, is a soldier who has been on leave while he trained for the Olympics. "Yes, my friends are in the war now, and also I'm in the military," he said Sunday. When asked if he would be returning to active service, the 23-year-old replied: "I don't know yet because I still have more meetings."



Above: Brandie Wilkerson of Team Canada celebrates during Monday's match against the United States in Paris. LARS BARON/GETTY IMAGES

Right: Caeli McKay of Canada's diving team dives into the water at the Aquatics Centre in Saint-Denis, France, on Monday. LEAH MILLIS/REUTERS



Right: Canada's Alysha Newman competes in the women's pole vault qualification round in Saint-Denis, France, on Monday. DAVID J. PHILLIP/ASSOCIATED PRESS



Top left: Gold medalist Yaroslava Mahuchikh and bronze medalist Iryna Gerashchenko, both from Ukraine, celebrate after the women's high-jump final on Sunday in Saint-Denis, France. ASHLEY LANDIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

McIntosh: Coaches marvel at medalist's ability to empty the tank and recover

FROM A1

But for all the stats and superlatives that have surrounded her, one number drives home the impact she's had on Canadian swimming, even before her 18th birthday. That number is 25 per cent.

Since Canada started competing in Olympic swimming in 1908, it has won 12 gold medals. The country hasn't lacked for talented swimmers over the years. But Ms. McIntosh is now responsible for one-quarter of those victories.

"I feel it will definitely take a while for me to realize what exactly we've done," Ms. McIntosh said. "I think it will sink in more once I head back to Canada."

Outside the country, her potential is now being mentioned in the same sentence as some of the greatest swimmers in history: Michael Phelps, Katie Ledecky, Mark Spitz, Ian Thorpe and others.

At 17, and with less than two weeks until her birthday, Ms. McIntosh has a lot on her plate. She still has two high-school courses to finish before she can graduate, something she fretted about this spring even while preparing for the Olympics.

"She was all stressed out," Jill said. "I'm like, 'It's April, Summer, you don't have to kill yourself. You can do it in the fall!'"

She'll fly back to Toronto on Tuesday, spend some time with friends at the family cottage and then will likely hop on a flight back to Paris to carry the Canadian flag in the closing ceremony on Sunday.

If there's one word that sums up how impressive Ms. McIntosh's four-medal performance has been, given that she swims multiple different endurance events, it's a word that has come up only in the past few days: pain. All last week, Ms. McIntosh spoke consistently and methodically about her races; just focusing on the next one, trusting in her training, nothing was bothering her. She made it sound easy.

But after her final race this weekend, there was a subtle shift. Asked if she felt tired, Ms. McIntosh replied that yes, she was, a little. But, she added: "I've trained years and years and simulated this kind of pain and exhaustion."

It's another side of her daughter that Jill and Greg McIntosh saw in her at a young age: never fearing pain.

"I actually think that is kind of

a little bit of a secret weapon, is her pain tolerance," said Jill, who swam for Canada at the 1984 Olympics.

She tells a story of Summer in grade school. Her class was taking part in a cross-country race, with an adult playing the role of pace bunny for the kids to chase.

It was supposed to be a fun activity, but a lot of the children didn't want to take part. Summer called her mother over and had a different worry: "What happens if I pass the pace bunny?"

Worried she'd get lost if she ran faster than the adult, she was merely thinking ahead. Summer ended up winning, and Jill remembers her collapsing in tears of exhaustion after pushing herself too hard.

"She won by a lot," Jill said. "And I felt so bad. I think she just freaked her body out. Because her ability to push her body is exceptional."

Coaches marvel at Ms. McIntosh's ability to empty the tank and then recover.

In Paris, she had as little as 40 minutes between races some nights, which gave her precious little time to reset. Visits to the podium only ate into that time. Suffice to say, Canadian swimming has never quite had an athlete who can shoulder so much at such a young age, or any age.

With swimming now done, she is already looking forward to doing some shopping when she gets home — regular teenager stuff — as well as spending time with her cats, another top priority, and celebrating her birthday. It will be some welcome downtime.

But as Ms. McIntosh leaves Paris, the planning for the rest of her athletic career ultimately begins now. How long it lasts, and what happens next, will largely be the product of how she approaches the years before Los Angeles 2028 and beyond.

Burnout in swimming is a well-known threat. Penny Oleksiak, who won four medals for Canada at the 2016 Rio Games at the age of 16, has talked about how she lost her love for the sport several years ago amid the grind of training and the pressure and responsibilities that come with Olympic fame, often when she just wanted to be a kid.

Now 24, Canada's most decorated Olympian with seven medals has learned to enjoy training again, but admits the transition was a difficult one. She never disliked the public persona swimming gave her, and loved signing autographs for little girls at the

grocery store, but Ms. Oleksiak knows it changed her life in ways her teenage self wasn't fully ready for.

Ms. McIntosh will now likely be recognized when the family goes out to eat in Toronto.

"That will be a bit strange I'm sure," said her mother. "To be honest, it still doesn't seem real."

She will likely be more anonymous in Sarasota, Fla., where she trains. But Ms. McIntosh isn't concerned either way. She has always been planning for longevity in the sport, she says. But in the maelstrom of Paris, she hasn't yet had time to process everything.

"Not at all," Ms. McIntosh said. "I appreciate the support and the attention. It just shows how much love and passion we have as a nation. But for me, the reason I'm doing this is just because I have so much love for this sport."

As Ms. McIntosh soon turns her attention to the 2028 Olympics, the next four years would be daunting for any teenager, Jill said.

"It's a big four years for her age bracket, usually leaving home, going to university, all that stuff that she's going to be going through. But I think you just take it one day at a time, and just make sure that she's surrounded by the best people."

Five-time medalist Kylie Masse, 28, who just completed her third Olympics, said achieving longevity and avoiding burnout is all about staying grounded away from the pool.

"This is something that I've had to learn. When you're so wrapped up in the times and the outcome year after year after year, eventually that's going to get exhausting," Ms. Masse said. "And I think it's in those times that it's the most important to really remember the journey and keep things in perspective."

One of the details of her life Ms. McIntosh enjoys talking about most is her cat, Mikey, who she named after her idol, Michael Phelps, considered the greatest swimmer in history.

That her name is now being mentioned alongside his and others, given her gold medals and her future potential, is something that is "absolutely unreal," she said.

"I don't think I should be," Ms. McIntosh said. "I still have a lot more I have to do to even be considered."

Asked about future swimmers naming their cat Summer, Ms. McIntosh laughed.

"That's funny."

Rail companies, union to resume talks Wednesday

Progress made by the three parties is 'unacceptably slow,' newly appointed Labour Minister Steve MacKinnon says

MARIEKE WALSH
SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER
OTTAWA

Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd. and Canadian National Railway Co. will both resume mediated talks with the Teamsters union on Wednesday, just days before the workers will be in a legal strike position that could halt rail shipments across Canada.

The companies and union announced the bargaining date after meetings with Transport Minister Pablo Rodriguez and newly appointed Labour Minister Steve MacKinnon, who had publicly re-

quested the meeting at his offices in Gatineau, Que. on Monday.

Speaking to reporters ahead of the gathering on Monday, Mr. MacKinnon was highly critical of the progress made to date, calling the talks "unacceptably slow."

"It's time for the parties to get to work," Mr. MacKinnon said. "Any Canadian understands how integral these two companies and their workers are to the functioning of the Canadian economy."

The two railways are in separate negotiations with the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference, which represents 9,300 train operators, traffic controllers and yard workers in Canada. They could be in a legal strike position as early as next week with the potential to significantly disrupt the Canadian economy and halt shipments of fuel, retail goods and key commodities across the country.

All sides would have been in a

legal strike or lockout position on May 22, but that was delayed when then federal labour minister Seamus O'Regan directed the Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) to examine whether certain rail deliveries should be declared essential services, allowing shipments to continue during work stoppages. These goods include heavy fuel, propane, food and chlorine for water-treatment facilities.

The board is expected to release its decision by Friday. A strike or lockout cannot happen until 72 hours after the CIRB issues a decision, but that timeline could be further delayed if the board mandates a cooling-off period.

The companies and union are still far apart in negotiations, according to the union's executive director and director of government relations, Mariam Abdou-Dib, who told reporters on her way into the meeting that the union has not yet begun to dis-

cuss wage proposals. "The first and most important thing is our health and safety," she said.

The union has accused the railways of proposing contracts that jeopardize safety — something the companies dispute. In a statement, Teamsters director of public affairs Christopher Monette said the offer from CPKC would risk more "derailments and other accidents" and CN's includes enough changes to "raise safety concerns."

CPKC assistant vice-president Patrick Waldron said the company has made two separate offers to the Teamsters that he said provide significant benefits to employees and comply with new regulatory requirements for rest. "They do not in any way compromise safety. To say or suggest otherwise is patently false," Mr. Waldron said.

On its website, CN states that its contract offer is fully compliant with the federal government's duty and rest period

rules. "We have put three different offers on the table and the union has stuck to its 200 demands without even proposing counter offers," said Jonathan Abecassis, CN's director of public affairs and media relations.

In its online bargaining updates, CN said in May that it had made a new offer that includes a 3-per-cent raise in 2024 and a 2.5-per-cent increase next year.

The Teamsters have rejected offers from both companies to go to binding arbitration and avoid a work stoppage. Mr. Monette said the union has refused such a move because it believes that the deals can still be reached at the bargaining table.

In a statement, Robin Guy, a vice-president with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, said rail strikes would "have a devastating impact not only for the Canadian economy, but for Canadian families." He said the government should do "what it can" to ensure shipments continue.

Nursing: 'Externships' became hiring tool for Windsor Regional to replenish its ranks

■ FROM A1

Recruitment leaders at Windsor Regional credit the turnaround in part to the Ontario government paying \$25,000 signing bonuses, which have helped neutralize incentives long offered by Michigan hospitals, and to an "externship" program that Ms. Mastroianni said was instrumental in her decision to stay in Canada.

She briefly considered applying for jobs at a large cancer centre in Detroit. But her time working on the Windsor Regional cancer ward as an extern — a new category of part-time job for which nursing students are paid \$20.60 an hour to help patients with tasks such as bathing and feeding — persuaded her to accept a permanent, part-time job offer there before she graduated in May.

"I really fell in love with the environment on the oncology floor," Ms. Mastroianni said. "There's nurses that have worked there for 20 years and you can see that they're still affected by what they do and that they care so much."

Windsor Regional was one of the first hospitals in Ontario to shore up staffing with paid nursing students early in the pandemic, said Karen Riddell, the hospital's acting chief executive officer. "Without those externs," she said, "we wouldn't have been able to do all of the work that we did in a quality way. We would have been very short staffed."

As the pandemic dragged on, spurring an exodus of experienced nurses, the externship program became a recruitment tool that helped Windsor Regional replenish its ranks. The province stepped in with dedicated funding in 2021, eventually making the externship program permanent and available to all publicly funded hospitals.



Melissa Mastroianni, a recent graduate of the University of Windsor's nursing program, stands outside Windsor Regional Hospital, where she accepted a job on the oncology unit. DAX MELMER/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Windsor Regional has since hired 231 former externs as registered nurses and registered practical nurses, while 7,300 nursing students have worked as externs provincially, according to the office of Ontario Health Minister Sylvia Jones. Nearly half were later hired as full-time staff.

Also, since 2021, Windsor Regional has hired 308 nurses through the Community Commitment Program for Nurses, a provincial program that offers \$25,000 signing bonuses to nurses who agree to work full-time hours in a community for two years. As a check against poaching within the province, the bonus is only available to nurses who haven't worked in Ontario in the past six months, a category

that includes new graduates and veteran nurses enticed back from jobs in the United States.

It's not clear how many Canadian nurses cross the border to work, but the think tank SecondStreet.org reported last year that border states have issued licences to 8,909 nurses and 879 doctors with Canadian mailing addresses. Drawing on a survey of Ontario registered nurses with Michigan nursing licences, SecondStreet estimated that nearly 2,000 regularly commute to Michigan for work.

The proximity of Detroit hospitals to Windsor means that Erin Hodgson, Windsor Regional's external recruitment co-ordinator, faces fiercer competition for nurses at job fairs than her counterparts at other hospitals.

"I've been to several events at the University of Windsor where there's a lot of Canadian organization representation but then the American hospitals come up and they're able to offer jobs on the spot, signing bonuses on the spot," she said. "It's a struggle as far as recruitment goes to compete with that."

Nurses who choose Detroit over Windsor tell Ms. Hodgson and Laura Janisse, Windsor Regional's manager of HR, that American dollars are a big draw, but so is the fact that non-unionized U.S. hospitals often offer Canadian nurses full-time jobs right out of school with the flexibility to set their own schedules. Ms. Janisse said that, because of agreements with the nursing

union, full-time jobs in Windsor Regional have to be posted internally first, meaning it is more common for new graduates to be offered part-time jobs.

On the other side of the Canada-U.S. divide, Patrick Irwin, vice-president of human resources at Henry Ford Health, said it can be difficult for Detroit hospitals to compete with Canadian maternity-leave policies, which offer nurses who want to have children in the future up to 18 months off work, far longer than is common in the U.S.

Henry Ford's Detroit location is about a 10-minute drive from the Detroit-Windsor tunnel.

Henry Ford's goal is not to raid the Canadian nursing supply, he added, but rather to improve medical care in a co-operative Windsor-Detroit region where health staff who work in both systems at some point in their career share their knowledge.

Ms. Riddell, the acting CEO of Windsor Regional, is a case in point. She started her career as a nurse in neurosurgery at Henry Ford.

Henry Ford Health currently has 1,100 Canadian employees out of about 32,000 staff. Approximately 900 of the Canadian employees are nurses, a spokeswoman for Henry Ford said. The hospital network's nursing vacancy rate in June was 7 per cent, more than twice the nursing vacancy rate at Windsor Regional.

During her time as an extern on the Windsor Regional oncology floor, Ms. Mastroianni recognized — and appreciated — that some of her future colleagues had worked at the Karmanos Cancer Institute, a large cancer centre affiliated with Wayne State University and other facilities in Detroit, before deciding to come home.

"Then we're all able to learn from each other," she said.

Recession: Analysts raise probability of a U.S. economic slump to around 25%

■ FROM A1

The sell-off in stocks, which started with a bang on Monday morning then moderated somewhat throughout the day, was accompanied by wild swings in bond markets, as traders reassessed their outlook for U.S. monetary policy in real time. The yields on two-year Treasury bonds fell as much as 20 basis points before recovering that ground by the end of the day. (A basis-point is 1/100th of a percentage point).

A drop in stock prices does not, by itself, pose major risk to the real economy. However, extreme market volatility can tighten lending conditions and a fall in asset prices can weigh on consumer confidence.

"The key risk to our view is that the disorderly market reaction itself, if sustained, will feed

through to a higher chance of recession," Stephen Brown, deputy chief North America economist at Capital Economics, wrote in a note to clients, which put the odds of a "hard landing" for the U.S. economy at 27 per cent.

"That could be because financial firms get into serious trouble due to the sharp market moves, or because firms respond to the tightening of financial conditions by cutting back on investment and headcount."

The Bank of Canada is ahead of the Fed on monetary policy easing, having delivered two rate cuts so far this summer in response to falling inflation, tepid economic growth and rising unemployment. Governor Tiff Macklem said at the latest rate announcement that the central bank was putting more emphasis on downside risks to economic growth, instead of just focusing on the risk that inflation could rebound.

The sell-off began on Friday after the publication of the latest U.S. employment data, which showed fewer jobs were created in July than expected, while the unemployment rate rose to 4.3 per cent, the highest level in three years. This came only two days after the Federal Reserve opted to keep its benchmark interest rate steady at a two-decade high of 5.25 per cent to 5.5 per cent.

One bad jobs number doesn't mean the U.S. is in a recession. Indeed, a range of other economic indicators suggest the American economy remains surprisingly

robust despite highly restrictive interest rates. A gauge of the health of the U.S. service sector, published Monday, actually showed a rebound in July.

Still, the rise in unemployment breached something called the Sahm Rule, named after former Fed economist Claudia Sahm, which is seen by many as a reliable predictor of recessions. And it caused investors to second-guess their expectations of a soft landing, where inflation falls and interest rates decline in an orderly manner, without the economy cratering.

Investors now think the Fed will need to cut interest rates fast in the coming months to stimulate the economy and avoid a hard landing.

Financial markets are pricing in between 100 and 125 basis points of rate cuts before the end of the year. With only three Fed meetings left, that means markets expect policy makers to deliver oversized cuts. There were even suggestions from some analysts on Monday that the Fed should cut rates before the next meeting in September.

"The Fed could ride in on a white horse to save the day with a big rate cut, but the case for an intermeeting cut seems flimsy," said Brian Jacobsen, chief economist at Annex Wealth Management. "Those are usually reserved for emergencies, like COVID, and an unemployment rate of 4.3 per cent doesn't really seem like an emergency."

Central banks around the

world are walking a tightrope. Inflation has come down considerably, and most economies have avoided the recessions that economists were predicting a year ago. The concern now is that many central bankers have been too slow to begin bringing interest rates back to a more normal level, making a downturn much more likely.

Analysts at Goldman Sachs raised their forecast for a U.S. recession over the next 12 months, putting the probability at around 25 per cent, up from 15 per cent.

The market slump on Friday and Monday still leaves U.S. stock indices up considerably this year. While the Nasdaq Composite is down 13 per cent and the S&P 500 is off 8.5 per cent since peaking in July, both are still up nearly 10 per cent since the start of the year.

Some of Wall Street's recent declines may also simply be air coming out of a stock market that romped to dozens of historic highs this year, in part on a frenzy around artificial-intelligence technology and hopes for coming cuts to interest rates. Critics have been saying for a while that the stock market looked expensive after prices rose faster than corporate profits.

"Markets tend to move higher like they're climbing stairs, and they go down like they're falling out a window," according to JJ Kinnahan, CEO of IG North America. He said much of the recent sell-off was due to subsiding euphoria around AI and "a market that was ahead of itself."

The stock price for Nvidia Corp., the chip maker most associated with the AI boom, fell as much as 12 per cent on Monday, and finished the day down 6.3 per cent. Alphabet Inc. stock was down 4.6 per cent while Apple Inc. stock fell 4.8 per cent.

Apple may also have been hit by the disclosure over the weekend that Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway had halved its ownership stake in the company.

The biggest fall in stock prices happened in Japan, where several macroeconomic and technical factors combined to create a massive pullback by investors.

The Bank of Japan raised interest rates last week, putting additional upward pressure on the yen, which has already appreciated considerably over the past month.

The yen's appreciation has prompted a messy unwinding of a popular strategy called the "carry trade," which involves borrowing money at low interest rates in Japan and investing in higher-yielding assets in other countries. It's also hitting Japanese stock prices, as a rise in the yen compared with other currencies tends to hurt the profits of Japanese exporters.

Other markets sold off as well on Monday. South Korea's benchmark index declined 8.8 per cent, Britain's FTSE 100 fell 2 per cent and the S&P Euro 350 was down 2.12 per cent.

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Harris eyes Walz, Shapiro for vice-president

Her running mate to be announced before a public appearance in Philadelphia on Tuesday

NANDITA BOSE

Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris has narrowed her search for a vice-presidential running mate to two finalists, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, three sources with knowledge of the matter said on Monday.

Ms. Harris, the U.S. Vice-President, is expected to announce her selection by Tuesday, ahead of her first scheduled public appearance with her running mate that evening at Temple University in Philadelphia.

It was unclear if a final decision has been made, the sources said. The rally will kick off a five-day, seven-city tour of battleground states likely to decide the Nov. 5 election.

The choice of a running mate is one of the most consequential decisions of Ms. Harris's political career, as she hastily pulls together a campaign to challenge Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump and U.S. Senator JD Vance, his vice-presidential pick, in the Nov. 5 election. Mr. Vance will also make a campaign stop in South Philadelphia on Tuesday.

Mr. Shapiro, 51, is a rising star of the party with strong approval ratings in Pennsylvania, whose 19 electoral votes makes it a must-win state for both Ms. Harris and Mr. Trump.

A former state attorney-general, Mr. Shapiro would add to the



U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris, seen last week in Houston, is weighing the decision of a running mate with a small circle of aides and advisers that includes her husband and brother-in-law. KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

ticket's historical significance; he would be the country's first Jewish vice-president, while Ms. Harris is seeking to become the first Black and South Asian American woman elected U.S. president.

Mr. Shapiro's strong support for Israel could alienate some progressive voters, though it could also appeal to moderate voters and defang Republican efforts to turn the Israel-Gaza war into a wedge issue for Democrats.

Mr. Walz, 60, is a former U.S. Army National Guard member and a former teacher who has raised his profile in recent weeks as an effective advocate for Ms. Harris.

A former member of Congress from a Republican-leaning district, Mr. Walz has proven appeal

to rural, white voters, though he has also championed progressive policies as governor, such as free school meals and expanded paid worker leave. While Minnesota is a solidly Democratic state, it is close to Wisconsin and Michigan, two crucial battlegrounds.

Speculation had focused on six finalists – four governors, a senator and a cabinet secretary in the Biden administration, all white men with a record of winning over rural, white or independent voters.

In addition to Mr. Shapiro and Mr. Walz, contenders included U.S. Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear and Illinois Gover-

nor J.B. Pritzker.

The candidates will be informed on Monday night or Tuesday morning whether they were picked, sources told Reuters. The Harris campaign plans a social-media announcement featuring the duo, campaign officials familiar with the arrangements said.

Ms. Harris's search for a running mate began in earnest two weeks ago, shortly after President Joe Biden withdrew from the race and endorsed her to replace him.

There was no immediate indication that Monday's market sell-off would have an impact on Ms. Harris's announcement timing. Mr. Trump, seeking to capitalize on the downturn, referred to the "Kamala crash" in a post on his

social-media site, Truth Social.

Over the weekend, Ms. Harris met with her vetting team, including former attorney-general Eric Holder, whose law firm Covington & Burling LLP scrutinized the finances and background of potential running mates. Mr. Holder and his office made in-depth presentations on each of the finalists, according to multiple sources familiar with the process.

Ms. Harris is weighing the decision with her husband, Doug Emhoff, brother-in-law Tony West and a small circle of aides and advisers, the sources said.

On her battleground states tour, Ms. Harris and her running mate will hit seven cities in five days: Philadelphia; Eau Claire, Wis.; Detroit; Durham, N.C.; Savannah, Ga.; Phoenix; and Las Vegas, said a campaign official, who did not wish to be named.

They will hold rallies in each location along the tour, which will include college campuses, historically Black universities, union halls and restaurants, the official said.

Over the weekend, the Harris campaign launched a program to persuade Republican voters to support the Democrat and showcased endorsements from Republicans including former Trump White House officials Stephanie Grisham and Olivia Troye.

The program will hold kickoff events in the battleground states of Arizona, North Carolina and Pennsylvania on Monday.

On Monday, Ms. Harris notched another union endorsement with the hospitality workers union praising her as having a long-standing record of delivering for union workers.

REUTERS

U.S. Supreme Court rejects bid to halt Donald Trump's sentencing

JOHN KRUZEL

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rejected a bid by the state of Missouri to halt Donald Trump's coming sentencing for his conviction in New York on felony charges involving hush money paid to a porn star and left a related gag order until after the Nov. 5 presidential election.

The decision by the justices came in response to Missouri's lawsuit claiming that the case against Mr. Trump infringed on the right of voters under the U.S. Constitution to hear from the Republican presidential nominee as he seeks to regain the White House.

The Supreme Court's order was unsigned. Conservative Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito indicated they would have taken up Missouri's case but added that they "would not grant other relief."

Mr. Trump was found guilty in May of falsifying business records to cover up a US\$130,000 payment to porn star Stormy Daniels in exchange for her silence before the 2016 U.S. election about a sexual encounter she has said she had with Mr. Trump years earlier. Prosecutors have said the payment was designed help Mr. Trump's chances in the 2016 election.



Former U.S. president Donald Trump appears at a New York court for deliberations in his criminal hush money trial in May. STEVEN HIRSCH/AP

Mr. Trump denies having had sex with Ms. Daniels and has vowed to appeal his conviction after his sentencing, scheduled for September.

Mr. Trump also faces federal and state criminal charges involving his efforts to undo his 2020 election loss to President Joe Biden.

The Supreme Court in a July 1 ruling powered by its 6-3 conservative majority granted Mr. Trump substantial criminal immunity for actions taken in office. It all but ensured Mr. Trump would not face trial in the federal election subversion case before

the election.

Mr. Trump's lawyers promptly invoked the immunity ruling in a bid to toss the hush money verdict. They said prosecutors improperly relied on social-media posts made in 2018 by Mr. Trump when he was serving as president that qualified as official communications.

The judge in the case said he would rule on Mr. Trump's arguments by Sept. 6. Justice Merchan said that if he upholds the conviction, he would sentence Mr. Trump on Sept. 18.

REUTERS

British PM touts specialist police to deal with rioters

DANICA KIRKA
BRIAN MELLEY LONDON

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said Monday that a "standing army" of specialist police would be set up to deal with rioting and that the justice system would be ramped up to handle hundreds of arrests after violent disorder rocked cities across the nation over the past week.

Mr. Starmer convened an urgent meeting after lawlessness he blamed on "far-right thuggery" that was driven in part by misinformation on social media that whipped up anger over a stabbing rampage at a dance class that killed three girls and wounded 10 people. False rumours spread online that the suspect was a Muslim asylum-seeker led to attacks on immigrants and mosques.

"Whatever the apparent motivation, this is not protest. It is pure violence and we will not tolerate attacks on mosques or our Muslim communities," Mr. Starmer said. "The full force of the law will be visited on all those who are identified as having taken part in these activities."

On Sunday, angry mobs attacked two hotels used to house asylum seekers, breaking windows and lighting fires before police dispersed the crowds and residents were evacuated. Dozens of police officers have been hospitalized for injuries in the past six days after being struck with bricks, bottles and large wooden posts.

More than 375 people have been arrested in the mayhem so far and more are expected, the National Police Chiefs' Council said.

Many made court appearances Monday and found themselves facing at least several weeks behind bars awaiting their next court hearing.

Deputy District Judge Liam McStay in Belfast Magistrates' Court refused bail for two men who had participated in a march that trashed businesses and set a supermarket on fire in the capital of Northern Ireland. He said he couldn't allow that to be repeated and "visited on other people."

Mr. Starmer's plan to beef up the criminal justice system and deliver quick justice faces significant challenges as courts are already backed up and prisons are so overcrowded that plans were already in the works to release inmates early, said Cassia Rowland, a senior researcher at the Institute for Government think tank.

"That's not a problem you can fix overnight and it's going to be difficult, I think, for the system to cope with the influx of demand that we're likely to see as a result of this disorder," Ms. Rowland said.

Mr. Starmer has dismissed calls to reconvene Parliament to deal with the crisis or send in the army. His office said police can handle the disorder.

In the meeting with ministers and top law-enforcement officials, Mr. Starmer said social-media companies have not done enough to prevent the spread of misinformation that has fuelled far-right violence and vowed that anyone who stokes the disorder – online or on the streets – could face prison, a spokesperson said. Some of that false and misleading information has come from foreign states.

"The disinformation that we've seen online attracts amplification from known bot activity, which, as I say, can be linked to state-backed activity," a Starmer spokesperson said in a readout of the meeting.

Mr. Starmer's office condemned Elon Musk, owner of the social-media platform X, for responding to a post of footage of the violence by saying: "civil war is inevitable."

"There's no justification for comments like that," the spokesperson said. "We're talking about a minority of thugs who don't speak for Britain."

Near Rotherham, in Northern England, where a violent mob on Sunday stormed a Holiday Inn Express where migrants were housed, throwing chairs at police and setting a fire, a crowd of volunteers showed up Monday to help clean up the mess. Police guarded the building as glass from broken windows was swept up. A wooden fence behind the building had been destroyed by men who tore off planks of wood and hurled them at police.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian Olympic Committee withdraws accreditation of De Grasse's coach

GLOBE STAFF

Rana Reider, coach of Canadian sprinter Andre De Grasse, has had his accreditation withdrawn by the Canadian Olympic Committee and can no longer continue to coach athletes competing in the Paris Olympic Games, his lawyer has confirmed.

Mr. Reider's attorney, Ryan Stevens, said in a statement that effective immediately, the coach would not be allowed access to training and competition venues.

The Guardian newspaper reported Monday night that the move by the COC comes amid safeguarding concerns and allegations of sexual and emotional abuse.

The British newspaper reported that on Friday, World Athletics had questioned Canada's decision to accredit Mr. Reider when he had only recently served a 12-month probation after being sanctioned by the US Centre for

SafeSport for a relationship that "presented a power imbalance" with one of his athletes.

On Sunday, another British newspaper, the Times, reported that three women had filed lawsuits against Mr. Reider to a circuit court in Broward County, Fla.

Mr. Stevens said his client has been "unjustly" stripped of his Olympic coaching credentials based on what the lawyer called "years-old claims in a lawsuit by former athletes seeking financial gain" and without due process.

The lawyer said U.S. SafeSport looked into the allegations and dismissed "the majority of the claims" before closing its investigation in 2023. He said Mr. Reider "successfully" completed a probation period that ended in May.

"He has no sanctions against him by USA Track & Field or Athletics Canada," Mr. Stevens said in his statement. "The ones who are being hurt in all of this are the athletes suddenly forced to

compete without their chosen coach, including one of Canada's finest sprinters," Mr. Stevens said.

Mr. De Grasse, a six-time Olympic medalist, fell short of qualifying for the men's 100-metre final on Sunday night, a first in his career at the Games. He quickly pivoted to running the opening round of the 200 metres on Monday. The Markham, Ont., sprinter finished second in his heat to book his ticket into Wednesday's semi-finals. The final is set for Thursday night.

Mr. Reider, who is based in Florida, began working with Mr. De Grasse in late 2018, after a two-year stretch when the Canadian phenom struggled with health issues and his career looked to be in jeopardy. The Florida-based sprinting guru is credited for turning the Canadian athlete's career around.

He is also the coach of Italian sprinter Marcell Jacobs.



The Prefecto Derbes, an Argentine Coast Guard vessel, sits in Puerto Madryn on Dec. 3, 2016, with the names of ships that it has arrested painted on the side of its bridge. MILKO SCHVARTZMANN/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

China is buying its way into other countries' fishing grounds, threatening livelihoods

The country operates almost 250 vessels that are registered under the flag of another nation

IAN URBINA
PETE MCKENZIE
MILKO SCHVARTZMAN

On March 14, 2016, in the squid grounds off the coast of Patagonia, a rusty Chinese vessel called the Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10 was fishing illegally several miles inside Argentine waters. Spotted by an Argentine coast-guard patrol and ordered over the radio to halt, the specially designed squid-fishing ship known as a jigger fled the scene. The Argentinians gave chase and fired warning shots. The Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10 then tried to ram the coast-guard cutter, prompting it to open fire directly on the jigger, which soon sank. The crew were pulled out of the water by another vessel.

Although the violent encounter at sea that day was unusual, the incursion into Argentine waters by a Chinese squid jigger was not. Owned by a state-run behemoth called the China National Fisheries Company, or CNFC, the Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10 was part of a fleet of several hundred Chinese jiggers that makes annual visits to the high-seas portion of the fishing grounds that lie beyond Argentina's territorial waters.

During their visits, many of these jiggers turn off their locational transponders and cross secretly into Argentine waters, where they are not permitted to go. Since 2010, the Argentine navy has chased at least 11 Chinese squid vessels out of Argentine waters for suspected illegal fishing, according to the government.

A year after the illegal incursion and sinking of the Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10, Argentina's Federal Fishing Council issued a little-noticed announcement: It was granting fishing licenses to two foreign vessels that would allow them to operate within Argentine waters. Both would sail under the Argentine flag through a local front company, but their true "beneficial" owner was CNFC.

This decision was noteworthy because it seemed to violate Argentine regulations that not only forbid foreign-owned ships from flying Argentina's flag or fishing in its waters but also prohibit the granting of fishing licenses to ship operators with records of illegal fishing in Argentine waters. "The decision was a total contradiction," said Eduardo Pucci, a former Argentine fisheries minister who now works as a fishing consultant.

The move by Argentine authorities may have



Since 2010, the Argentine navy has chased at least 11 Chinese squid vessels out of Argentine waters for suspected illegal fishing, according to the government. MILKO SCHVARTZMANN/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

been a contradiction, but it is an increasingly common one in that country and elsewhere around the world. In recent years, from South America to Africa to the far Pacific, China has been buying its way into restricted national fishing grounds, primarily via a process known as "flagging in." This method typically involves the use of business partnerships to register foreign ships under the flag of another country, thereby allowing those vessels to fish in that country's territorial waters.

Chinese companies now control at least 62 industrial squid-fishing vessels that fly the Argentine flag, which constitutes most of the country's squid fleet. Many of these companies have been tied to a variety of crimes, including dumping fish at sea, turning off their transponders and engaging in tax evasion and fraud.

Trade records show that much of what is caught by these vessels is sent back to China, but some of the seafood is also exported to countries including the United States, Canada, Italy and Spain.

China now operates almost 250 of these flagged-in vessels, including those off the coasts of Micronesia, Kenya, Ghana, Senegal, Morocco and even Iran.

These hundreds of flagged-in industrial fishing ships complicate China's ocean conservation goals. In 2017, after pressure from environmental groups about overfishing, Beijing announced that it would cap the size of its distant-water fleet at 3,000 vessels. But that tally does not take into account the growing



Fishing vessels owned by an Argentine company with significant Chinese investment lie at a dock in Buenos Aires. PEDRO SOTO/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

number of industry ships that China owns and flags into other countries.

As global demand for seafood has doubled since the 1960s, the appetite for fish has outpaced what can be sustainably caught. Now, more than a third of the world's stocks have been overfished. To feed the demand, the proliferation of foreign industrial fishing ships, especially from China, risks collapsing domestic fish stocks of countries in the global South while also jeopardizing local livelihoods and compromising food security by exporting an essential source of protein. Western consumers, particularly in Europe, the U.S. and Canada, are beneficiaries of this cheap and seemingly abundant seafood caught or processed by China.

"It's a net transfer from poorer states who don't have the capacity to protect their fisheries, to richer states who just want cheaper food products," said Isaac B. Kardon, senior fellow for China studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

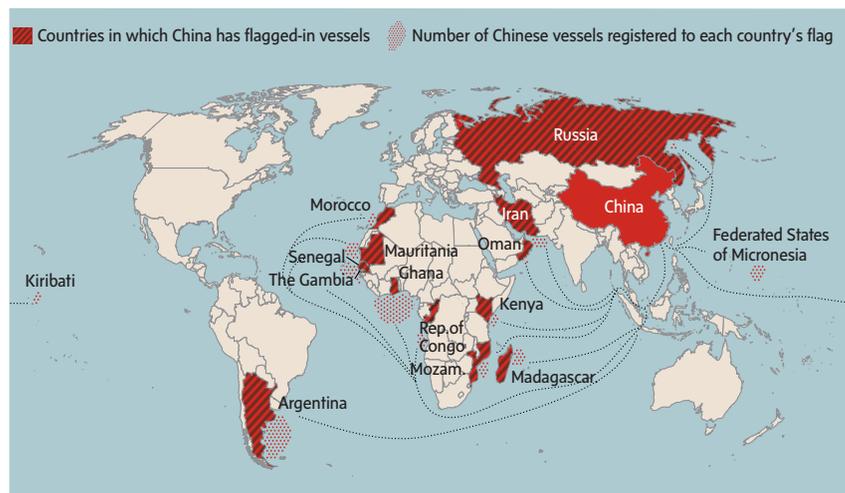
China is second only to the U.S. as a fish supplier to Canada, accounting for more than 11 per cent of all seafood imports in 2021, according to Canadian government figures.

Canada has launched several legislative initiatives in recent years to tackle some of the issues plaguing the seafood industry, including ratification of the Agreement on Port State Measures, pledging to deny port entry and the use of port services to vessels involved in illegal fishing. But it would be very difficult for the Canadian government to block imported seafood from ships that are flagged in to other countries since that process is not illegal.

Despite global concerns about the practice of flagging in, China has not hidden how this approach factors into larger ambitions. In an academic paper published in 2023, Chinese fishery officials explained how they have relied extensively on Chinese companies, for example, to penetrate Argentina's territorial waters through "leasing and transfer methods," and how this is part of a global policy.

China's growing reach into local waters

China operates almost 250 flagged-in vessels, including ones that fish off the coasts of Argentina, Micronesia, Kenya, Ghana, Senegal, Morocco and Iran.



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: OUTLAW OCEAN

The scourge of illegal fishing and overfishing did not originate with China, of course. Western industrial fleets dominated the world's oceans for much of the 20th century, fishing unsustainably in ways that have helped cause the current crisis, explained Daniel Pauly, a marine biologist at the University of British Columbia.

China's expansionist methods are also not historically unique. Countries in the West have a long and infamous record of intervening abroad when leaders from other countries begin erecting highly protectionist laws. In the past several decades, the tactic of flagging in has been used by American and Icelandic fishing companies. More recently, as China has increased its control over global fishing, the U.S. and European nations have jumped at the opportunity

to focus international attention on China's misdeeds.

China has a well-documented reputation for violating international fishing laws and standards, bullying other ships, intruding on the maritime territory of other countries and abusing its fishing workers. In 2021, the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, a non-profit research group, ranked China as the world's biggest purveyor of illegal fishing. But even frequent culprits can also be easy scapegoats: A country that regularly flouts norms and breaks the law can also, at times, be a victim of misinformation. When criticized in the media, China typically pushes back, not without reason, by dismissing the criticism as politically motivated and by accusing its detractors of hypocrisy.

The trend of Chinese ships flagging in is especially pronounced in Africa, where Chinese companies use the approach to operate in the national waters of at least nine countries on the continent — among them, notably Ghana. More than 135 Chinese fishing ships flying the Ghanaian flag are fishing in national waters, even though foreign investment in fishing is technically illegal. Nonetheless, up to 95 per cent of Ghana's industrial trawling fleet has some element of Chinese control, according to a 2018 report by the Environmental Justice Foundation, an advocacy group.

One of the concerns researchers have raised about this fleet has been its targeting of juvenile fish, which is problematic because catching young fish before they have a chance to reproduce threatens the stability of the area's fish stocks. Catching juvenile fish is a crime in Ghana that carries a fine of US\$100,000 or more, but these fines are rarely levied, according to a 2023 report from the Stimson Center, a non-profit research group.

China has also displaced fishing vessels from the European Union, right on its doorstep, in the waters of Morocco. In the recent past, dozens of vessels, most of them from Spain, fished with the permission of the Moroccan government inside the African country's exclusive economic zone. The agreement lapsed, however, in 2023, and China now operates at least six flagged-in vessels in Moroccan waters.

Chinese ships also comb the waters of Fiji, the Solomon Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, having flagged in or signed access agreements with those countries, according to a report released in 2022 by the Congressional Research Service in the U.S. "Chinese fleets are active in waters far from China's shores," the report said, "and the growth in their harvests threatens to worsen the already dire depletion in global fisheries."

The maritime domain is an important front in China's growth plans, which includes exerting power not just over the high seas and contested waters such as those in the South China Sea but also consolidating control over shipping, fishing in foreign coastal waters, and ports abroad.

To help create jobs, make money and feed its growing middle class, the Chinese government heavily supports its fishing industry with billions of dollars in subsidies including for fuel discounts, ship building or engine purchases. The Chinese fishing companies flagging into poorer countries's waters are also eligible for these subsidies.

"The reason why the Chinese subsidize these fleets could be not only for the fish," said Fernando Rivera, chairman of the Argentine Fishing Industry Chamber. "It has a very important geopolitical aspect."

As the U.S., Canadian and European fishing fleets and navies have shrunk, so too has Western development funding and market investment in Latin America, Africa and the Pacific. This has created a void that China is filling as part of its Belt and Road Initiative, Beijing's global development program.

Between 2000 and 2020, China's trade with Latin America and the Caribbean grew from US\$12-billion to US\$315-billion, according to the World Economic Forum. China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank of China, two major state-owned Chinese banks, provided US\$137-billion in loans to Latin American governments between 2005 and 2020. In exchange, China has, at times, received exclusive access to a wide range of resources, from oil fields to lithium mines.

In Argentina, China has provided billions of dollars in currency swaps, a crucial lifeline amid skyrocketing domestic inflation and growing hesitancy from other international investment or lending organizations. China has also made or promised billion-dollar investments in Argentina's railway system, hydroelectric dams, lithium mines and solar and wind power plants.

For Beijing, this money has created a variety of business opportunities. But it has also bought the type of political influence that became crucially important for the crew of the Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10, all 29 of whom were rescued from the water when Argentine authorities sank the ship in 2016. Most of the men were scooped up by another nearby Chinese fishing ship, Zhong Yuan Yu 11, which was also owned by CNFC and had its own history of illegal fishing in Argentine waters. These men were immediately taken back to China.

Four of the crew, however, including the captain, were rescued by the Argentine Coast Guard. They were brought to shore and charged with a range of crimes, including violating fishing laws, resisting arrest and endangering a coast-guard vessel, and put under house arrest.

Roberto Wyn Hughes, a lawyer who frequently defends Chinese fishing companies, said that at the time, Argentine authorities typically did not prosecute the companies involved. Instead, they normally allowed the Chinese companies to pay a fine, after which their crew would be released. The sinking of the Lu Yan Yuan Yu 10 was different, however, because it sparked a media storm in Argentina and could not be handled as discreetly. Local news outlets described the ramming by the Chinese vessel and showed footage of the sinking.

Hugo Sastre, the judge handling the case, initially justified the charges filed. The Chinese officers had placed "both the life and property of the Chinese vessel itself and the personnel and ship of the Argentine Prefecture at risk," he said. But China's Foreign Ministry soon pushed back. A spokesman told reporters that he had "serious concerns" about the sinking and that his government had been engaged on behalf of the crew.

Three days later, the posture of the Argentine government began to shift. Susana Malcorra, Argentina's then-foreign minister, told reporters that the charges had "provoked a reaction of great concern from the Chinese government." She explained that she had reassured China that Argentina would fol-



Jorge Frias, president of the Argentine fishing captains' union, said that Argentine captains on Chinese-owned vessels have little say over fishing decisions. PETE MCKENZIE/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

Second from top: Roberto Wyn Hughes is a lawyer who frequently represents Chinese fishing companies. PETE MCKENZIE/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

low local and international laws. "We hope it will not impact bilateral relations," she told reporters.

Several weeks later, the Argentine judiciary also fell in line. "Given the doubt that weighs on the facts and criminal responsibility" of the captain, he and the three other sailors would be released without penalty, the court announced. On April 7, the four Chinese crew members were flown back to China.

By May, Argentina's Foreign Minister was on a plane to Beijing to meet with the Chinese Foreign Minister, Wang Yi. After their meeting, China's Foreign Minister hailed their countries' "voyage of over-all co-operation" and promised another surge of Chinese investment to Argentina. Mr. Yi added: "China will continue its support to the efforts made by Argentina in safeguarding its national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Chinese political influence shows up on board the fishing vessels as well. The case of Manuel Quiquinte is illustrative. In the spring of 2021, Mr. Quiquinte, an Argentinian crew member on a squid jigger called the Xin Shi Ji 89, contracted COVID-19 while at sea. The ship, which was Chinese-owned, was flagged to Argentina and jiggering in Argentinian waters. Its crew was a mix of Argentinian and Chinese workers.

Several days after Mr. Quiquinte fell ill, the Argentine captain called the Chinese owners to ask if the ship could go to shore in Argentina to get him medical care. Company officials said no and to keep fishing. Mr. Quiquinte died on the ship shortly thereafter, in May. The following month, a federal judge in Argentina charged the captain of the Xin Shi Ji 89 with criminal neglect.

In court papers tied to Mr. Quiquinte's death, several of the ship's Argentinian crew members explained that despite Argentine law forbidding non-Argentinians from being the captains or senior officers on these fishing ships, the reality is that the Chinese crew on board make the decisions. Even when they are designated on paper as lowly deckhands, Chinese crew members decide whether or not the ship will enter port to drop off a sick worker. The Argentinians might be designated as the engineers on board, but they are not supposed to touch the machines when the vessel leaves port. "The only thing we do is to assume responsibility for any accident," Fernando Daniel Marquez, the engineer on the Xin Shi Ji 89, said in the court documents.

When contacted by reporters about the death, the vessel's parent company, Zhejiang Ocean Family, said that the crew member had tested negative for COVID-19 prior to working on board but had indeed contracted the illness on the vessel and died after his condition deteriorated rapidly. Zhejiang Ocean Family said the vessel belonged to a local Argentine company, which Ocean Family has invested in, and it was this local company that handled the situation.

On land and at sea, Chinese shipowners use a variety of approaches to gain access to foreign waters and circumvent rules meant to protect local interests. In some countries, they sell or lease their ships to locals but retain control over decisions and prof-



On Feb. 24, 2018, the Argentine Coast Guard discovered the Jing Yuan 626 fishing illegally within Argentina's EEZ. Here, the Jing Yuan 626 and several other foreign fishing vessels crowd around the Coast Guard. JAVIER GIANNATTASIO/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

Top: The Argentine Coast Guard fire shots at Jing Yuan 626, which was fishing illegally in the country's national waters on Feb. 24, 2018. JAVIER GIANNATTASIO/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

its. In other places where governments forbid foreigners from fishing their waters, Chinese companies pay fees through "access agreements." Elsewhere, China has gone around the prohibitions on foreign shipowners by partnering with local residents and giving them a majority ownership stake.

Typically, about a quarter of the workers on Chinese-owned fishing ships operating in Argentinian waters are Chinese nationals, according to a review of about a dozen crew manifests published by local media. Jorge Frias, the president of the Argentine fishing captains' union, explained that on Argentine-flagged ships, the Chinese nationals call the shots. The captains are Argentinians, but "fishing masters," who are Chinese, decide where to go and when.

As these practices continue around the world, China's sheer size, ubiquity and poor track record on labour and marine conservation is raising concerns — and those affected are attempting to bring a wider awareness to the issue.

In Ghana, for instance, industrial trawlers, most of which are owned by China, catch more than 100,000 metric tons of fish each year, according to a 2017 study by the Environmental Justice Foundation — and the country's fishing stocks are now in crisis, as local fishermen's incomes have dropped by up to 40 per cent over the past two decades.

"Fishing vessel owners and operators exploit African flags to escape effective oversight and to fish unsustainably and illegally both in sovereign African waters and areas beyond national jurisdiction," wrote TMT, the non-profit that tracks maritime crime, adding that the companies were creating "a situation where they can harness the resources of a State without any meaningful restrictions or management oversight."

In the Pacific, an inspection in 2024 by local police and the U.S. found that six Chinese flagged-in ships fishing in the waters of Vanuatu had violated regulations requiring them to record the amount of fish they catch.

And in South America, the increasingly foreign presence in territorial waters is stoking nationalist worry in places including Peru and Argentina. "China is becoming the only player, by displacing local companies or purchasing them," said Alfonso Miranda Eyzaguirre, a former Peruvian minister of production.

Pablo Isasa, a captain of an Argentinian hake trawler, said: "We have the enemy inside and out."

This story was produced by The Outlaw Ocean Project with reporting contributed by Maya Martin, Jake Conley, Joe Galvin, Sue Ryan, Austin Brush and Teresa Tomassoni. Bellingcat, an independent investigative group, contributed reporting.



In 2020, Pablo Isasa, the captain of an Argentine fishing vessel named Beagle I, notified the Argentine Coast Guard that dozens of foreign vessels had crossed into the country's territorial waters to fish illegally. PETE MCKENZIE/THE OUTLAW OCEAN PROJECT

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

Enough with the health care scare tactics

There is an immutable rule of health care physics in Canada: for every modest proposal of reform there must be an instant and disproportionate burst of fearmongering.

So it goes in British Columbia, where the upstart Conservative Party (unrelated to its federal namesake) released its health care policy, proposing reforms that were modest, bordering on timid. That did not stop the B.C. NDP from asserting that Conservative Leader John Rustad intends to gut the province's health care system.

"I heard the announcement from John Rustad that if he's elected premier, the BC Conservatives are elected to government, that he's going to cut \$4-billion from our health care system," Premier David Eby told reporters during a mid-July press conference. Later, on a provincial radio program, the Premier asserted that, "It was there in black and white."

None of that is true. The Conservative health care policy does not mention \$4-billion in cuts, whether in black, white or any other colour. (In fact, there is no costing – an unforced error that opened the door to the NDP's misinformation.)

It does, though, cite a report from Deloitte Canada that discusses broad approaches for containing the rise in health care spending over the next decade and a half.

The report is manifestly not a manifesto for taking a meat cleaver to health care budgets. The consultancy outlines a scenario in which the modernization of public health care results in efficiencies that reduce the proportion of gross domestic product spent on health care in 2040 to 11 per cent from a projected 14.9 per cent (and the current 12.4 per cent).

Is that a cut? Not really, since the economy will be growing during that time: 11 per cent of that much bigger 2040 economy would be in, dollar terms, more than the current amount being spent. Even an average growth rate of just 1 per cent would mean the 2040 expenditures were higher – just not as high as if health care budgets were not constrained.

From that, the NDP asserts that the Conservatives are aiming to cut \$4-billion in health care spending in their first year in office, a clearly nonsensical argument.

If the New Democrats are concerned that a government is scheming to cut the proportion of GDP spent on health care, they may want to cast a glance at their own budget. The government's fiscal plan shows a slowing rate of increase in spending, enough that the share of GDP spent on health care drops in the next two years – the very accusation that the NDP have lobbed at the Conservatives.

In an interview, NDP MLA Ravi Parmar noted that his government has already increased health care spending substantially. And he said the government will unveil more health care promises during this fall's election campaign, and that the budget contingency fund could be used for health care. As well, previous NDP budgets have added new spending on top of similar projections.

Until then, however, the NDP plan is to reduce health care spending as a percentage of GDP – it's there in black and white, to echo Mr. Eby.

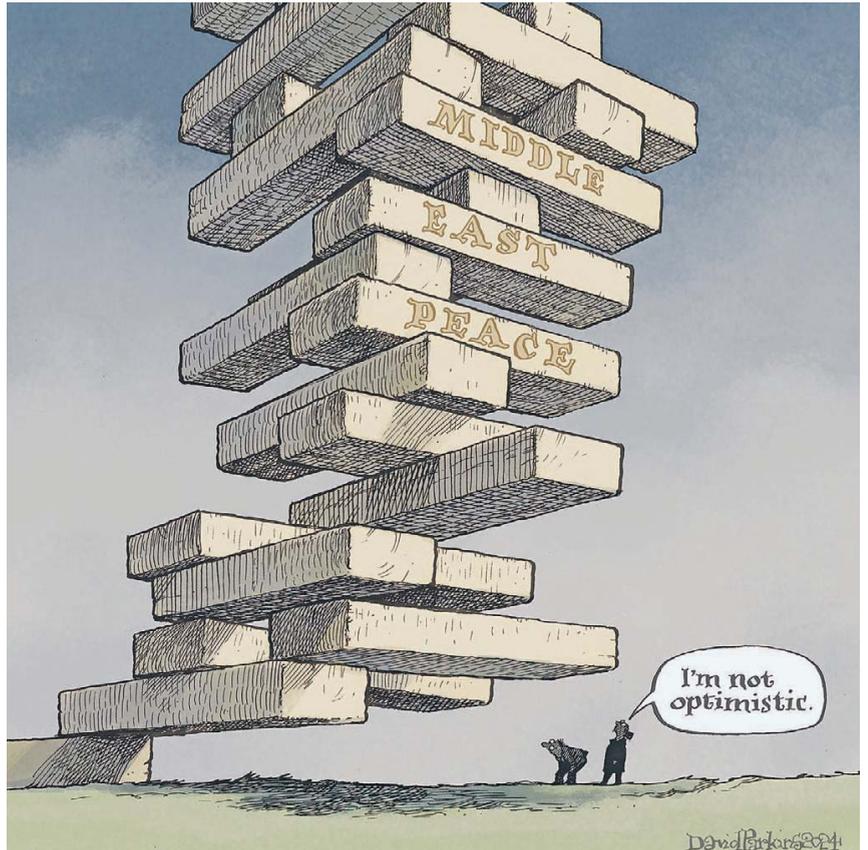
All of this underscores the essential silliness of measuring the performance of a health care system only by the volume of dollars poured into it. One would hope that if technology or other reforms reduced costs without hurting service levels, any political party would welcome the savings. And one would hope that political parties could debate reforms on their merits rather than concocting fears of cuts.

There are Conservative proposals (some of which were earlier articulated by their rivals on the right, BC United) worth discussing, if only as a precursor to larger reform.

The Conservatives, for instance, want to move away from block funding for hospitals to a fee-for-services model. Such a move is promising and could focus hospitals on crimping administration costs, as well as creating an apples-to-apples benchmark for private facilities performing publicly paid procedures. Similarly, both BC United and the Conservatives are proposing greater use of private facilities to clear out backlogs in the health care system.

The NDP has moved in the opposite direction, buying up private facilities. Which approach will deliver faster care at the lowest cost? That's a discussion worth having during the provincial election.

But that will require the parties to engage on the merits of their proposals rather than trying to drown out debate with fabricated – and sadly predictable – fearmongering.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DON'T SPEND IT ALL

Re "Let's stop bashing Canada's defence spending" (Aug. 1): Yes, Canadians should stop beating themselves up over the amount we spend on defence.

Instead, we should stop deploying decrepit equipment to joint military exercises. We should either fill the 15,000 vacant positions in the Canadian Armed Forces or eliminate them.

If we don't like the NATO commitment of 2 per cent of GDP, then we should leave. Justin Trudeau's promise to fulfill our commitment by 2032 feels like a disgraceful joke.

We could negotiate a separate defence deal with the United States. And while we are at it, perhaps we could make our armed forces free of abuse against women. If we cannot do that, then we should create two armed forces, one for women and the other for men.

My bet is that within 10 years, the male contingent would be made up entirely of vacant positions while the female one would be a modern, vibrant organization.

■ Patrick Cowan Toronto

EQUAL ACCESS

Re "Quebec injects politics into its health care system" (Editorial, Aug. 2): Canada is supposed to be a bilingual country. The federal government is supposed to ensure that both official languages are spoken everywhere.

Here in Western Quebec, health care services have been adequate, and the level of care has been great. Having recently gone for X-rays, I stumbled through the assessment with my limited Franglais, as always, and managed to get enough information to know what was going on.

I fear, however, that with recent language laws requiring French-only government services for things such as income tax, business inquiries and now health care, something will get lost in translation – and lives will be lost.

In a so-called bilingual country where all kinds of concessions have been made for French elsewhere in Canada, health care should be one area where the federal government ensures that Canadians have the right to be served in the language of their choice.

■ Kensel Tracy Chelsea, Que.

GOOD START

Re "Point Lepreau station is among North America's worst-performing nuclear power plants. Can NB Power turn it around?" (Report on Business, July 29): Point Lepreau was one of the world's top-performing reactors for many years after first critical-

ity. It achieved record levels of availability and generated more than 5,000 gigawatt hours a year of energy for its first decade of operations. However, numerous problems started to surface in the 1990s owing to poor maintenance and low investment.

■ Roderick Hogg Former Employee, Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.; Southport, NL

STONE'S THROW

Re "The misogynists trying to turn the United States into Gilead" (Aug. 2): Columnist Marsha Lederman urges that we should send the current wave of American misogynists "back to the Stone Age, where they belong."

While I appreciate the sentiment, it should be noted that during the Stone Age – a vast expanse of time accounting for the majority of our species' evolution – evidence suggests that gender relations were far more equal than during the far shorter agrarian, metal- and city-based civilizations that followed, up to the present.

Let's not tarnish the past by misattributing the origins of our own ugly ideologies.

■ David Bright St. Catharines, Ont.

DO BETTER

Re "More life" (Letters, Aug. 2): A letter writer finds that the National Farm Animal Care Council and Canadian Council on Animal Care "do somewhat protect" farm animals. I believe that neither they nor federal or provincial governments provide meaningful guards against such cruelty.

Provinces have made animal agriculture essentially exempt from animal cruelty laws; anything considered "generally accepted practice" is allowed. And what is generally accepted by the animal agriculture industry – and by these councils – often entails horrific cruelty.

Instead of focusing on reducing cruelty, our governments continue to pass "ag-gag" laws designed to prevent the public from realizing the extent of the cruelty. Meaningful protection of farm animals on the part of our provincial and federal governments is long overdue.

■ Don LePan Nanaimo, B.C.

CORPORATE CO-OPERATION

Re "Managers, managers everywhere – but do people really want such jobs?" (Report on Business, July 30): A long-time individual contributor, my hesitation (eventually overcome) about management was chiefly its stress point at the intersection of several conflicts: with highly paid and driven executives, between company and employee needs, between one team and another or even

among employees themselves.

The suggestion that employees now "look out" rather than "in" their organizations may be practical for career advancement, but bodes ill for organizational loyalty and societal benefits. Management vitally links employees not only for effective collaboration but also for human connections that contribute to broader social capital, an increasing challenge with the isolating trends of remote work.

In 2020, McKinsey reported that "relationships with management are the top factor in employees' job satisfaction" and "the second most important determinant of employees' overall well-being." And legal scholar Cynthia Estlund argued that workplaces create meaningfully diverse relationships that build mutual interdependence, empathy, belonging and trust through shared goals and achievements.

■ Chester Fedoruk Toronto

WRIT LARGE

Re "Battle of Passchendaele begins" (Moment in Time, July 31): My great uncle, Private Charlie Wesley Lovatt, was a stretcher bearer who died in this battle, almost exactly three months later. So it is gripping to see a photo of stretcher bearers at work.

Uncle Charlie's July 31 diary entry read: "Wet all day. On guard at night."

We have given that diary to the University of Winnipeg Archives. He was a student there, at Wesley College, from 1912 until he enlisted early in 1916.

■ Lloyd Lovatt Edmonton

NEWSWORTHY

My husband and I want to share our heartfelt thanks for The Globe and Mail paper carrier who took exceptional actions one morning last week, actions that made all the difference in someone's life.

While I was away at our family cottage, my husband was at home and had a fall in the middle of the night. Unable to reach the telephone, he dragged himself through the house toward the front door while bleeding from deep cuts in his head and leg. He lost consciousness for a period of time.

When our morning Globe delivery arrived, he was able to pull himself to the front door and call out. Our delivery person came to his aid and called an ambulance. This person's actions and willingness to get involved made all the difference.

While so many headlines bring difficult news these days, this delivery person was definitely good news for us.

■ James Elliott, Joan Anne Thraves Ottawa

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OPINION

The world is making progress on HIV-AIDS

Antiretrovirals have essentially made it a chronic and manageable illness

ANDRÉ PICARD

OPINION



In health care, we tend to spend a lot more time bemoaning failures than pondering successes. We too often lose sight of the fact that, while progress often comes gradually, the cumulative effect can be impactful.

HIV-AIDS is a case in point. With 88.4 million people infected with human immunodeficiency virus over the past four decades, and 42.3 million of them having succumbed to AIDS, it remains one of the worst pandemics in history.

But new infections are down a remarkable 60 per cent since the peak – from 3.3 million in 1995 to 1.3 million in 2023. Deaths have

dropped ever more sharply, 69 per cent, from 2.1 million in 2004 to 630,000 last year.

An astonishing 30.7 million people – 77 per cent of the 39.9 million living with HIV worldwide – are accessing antiretrovirals, drugs that keep the virus from replicating, and essentially made HIV a chronic, manageable illness.

Yet, much more remains to be done. The campaign to rid the world of the scourge of HIV-AIDS by 2030 seems to be faltering. The other pandemic, COVID-19, took a lot of wind out of the sails, overwhelming public health in many parts of the world.

Still, glimmers of hope continue to arise. At the 25th International AIDS Conference, held last month in Munich, there were two noteworthy developments: News of another patient who has been cured, and a big improvement in how preventive treatment can be delivered.

To date, only seven people have been cured of HIV: “The Berlin Patient,” Timothy Ray Brown, received a stem cell transplant to

treat leukemia in 2007, and it rid him of HIV. He lived 13 years before dying of cancer. The others include: The Dusseldorf Patient, Marc Franke; The London Patient, Adam Castillejo; The New York Patient, the only woman cured of HIV, has remained anonymous; The City of Hope Patient, Paul Edmonds; The Geneva Patient, known only as Romuald; The Next Berlin Patient, a 60-year-old man, was the latest patient cured, announced just weeks ago.

These cases are obviously unusual because, not only did the patients have HIV, but some form of blood cancer. The treatments they underwent were brutal and expensive. These treatments are not scalable, but provided researchers with important data.

Most of the patients received stem cell transplants from donors who carried a rare genetic mutation known as CCR5-delta 32, which makes them naturally resistant to HIV. But two of the donors did not have that mutation, and that’s important too.

Researchers speculate that

chemotherapy might be poisonous to HIV, which provides new pathways for potential treatments. Some of the stem cell transplant recipients also suffered graft vs. host disease (where the body rejects the transplant), an autoimmune reaction and that may have destroyed HIV reservoirs.

The biggest challenge in curing HIV-AIDS is that, even when the virus is undetectable in the body, it can hide in reservoirs, and spring up again.

The treatments we have, antiretrovirals, keep the virus from replicating, but don’t kill the hidden virus. That means patients need to keep taking ARVs for life – often daily – to avoid illness. The drugs are a functional cure, but a tough slough.

But there are newer drugs that can be taken by injection every two months, or even twice a year. Better still, these drugs can be taken to avoid infection – known as pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP.

A study released at the Munich AIDS conference found that one

injection every six months was 100 per cent effective in preventing infections in women age 16-25 living in Africa. That study generated much excitement because young African women account for half of all new HIV cases.

However, the injectable drug lenacapavir (brand name Sunlenca) is expensive, a staggering US\$42,240 annually, compared with \$50 for ARVs in pill form.

The science behind these treatments and cures is of dazzling complexity, but it comes up against a harsh reality: Those who would benefit most are the hardest to reach, for economic and geopolitical reasons.

To be effective, prevention methods have to be affordable and accessible. The simplest methods, like condoms, are still highly effective – if they are used.

HIV-AIDS has never been strictly a medical or scientific challenge. It is social and political aspects of the response that are the most bedeviling, the barriers that seem the hardest to overcome, and where we struggle the most to make progress.

Good times in the Maritimes bring their own problems

DONALD SAVOIE MONCTON

OPINION

Canada Research Chair in Public Administration and Governance at Université de Moncton

For more than 100 years, the Maritime story has been about managing decline. The reasons for the region’s economic challenges have been well documented – high unemployment levels, outmigration, reliance on federal transfers, federal economic policies, and resistance to immigration, among them.

But the story is suddenly changing, as the region witnesses a remarkable economic resurgence. Unemployment is at historic lows, going back more than half a century; in 1977, Nova Scotia’s unemployment rate was 10.3 per cent, whereas today it is 6.6 per cent, and the same trends can be found in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Interprovincial migration from the rest of the country to the Maritimes has been trending upward in recent years, offsetting the century-old trend of Maritimers going down the road to Ontario or New England to live and work. Nova Scotia’s population growth over the past year is the fastest on record since 1951, and again, the same can be said for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The region is also welcoming new Canadians at a record pace; the share of new Canadians settling in the Maritime provinces has tripled since 2006.

The surging population has helped deliver economic boom



The Maritime provinces have experienced a remarkable economic resurgence with interprovincial migration trending upward in recent years. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

times. Today, about a third of Nova Scotia’s budget revenues come from federal transfers, compared with about 45 per cent in 1983-84. Meanwhile, unlike other provinces, New Brunswick has been running sizeable budgetary surpluses over the past several years. Fifty years ago, the Maritimes’ main challenge was to attract investments and jobs to the region; now, the challenge is to attract workers to all the jobs available.

The reasons for the turnaround are varied. Forty years ago, the best and brightest from my university would tell me that government work was the ticket to a rewarding career. Today, I see more and more students looking to start their own business, instead. Fifty years ago, the perception was that businesses from

away just had to nudge their products downhill to the Maritimes to succeed, and so many local businesses felt that they could not compete. Many even gave up trying to haul their products to Ontario and Quebec, convinced that national policies made it impossible. Today, free-trade agreements are enabling Maritime businesses to pursue new markets abroad, in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Increasingly, firms from away are even moving their operations to the Maritimes – not because of government-grant incentives, but because it makes economic sense to do so.

But while managing decline is one thing, managing growth has proven to be a different can of worms. Public services in the region are not keeping up with pop-

ulation growth and surging demand, challenges that are new to Maritime governments. Health care facilities are bursting at the seams, and temporary classrooms are popping up in virtually every school yard in urban areas. Halifax, Moncton and Charlottetown are dealing with serious housing crises, and the crime rate is up in both Halifax and Moncton. A disturbing resentment toward new Canadians is growing, with some Maritimers increasingly convinced that they are the cause of many of the region’s newfound problems.

The tendency for governments is to ride the status quo for as long as they can in policy areas that are not at the top of their political agenda. But recent developments should be forcing Ottawa’s hand

to change course on regional development. After all, the economic challenges confronting Halifax and Moncton are no different than those found in Kitchener, Ont., Kelowna, B.C., and Saskatoon, and they are not for a lack of jobs.

The federal government has several regional development agencies, which have head offices located in urban centres. Their programs are designed to fuel economic growth, and promoting growth is easier to do in urban centres. However, regional development policy was never designed to add fuel to overheating economies.

If there is a regional development challenge, it lies in rural communities. The economic imbalance is now less between regions, and more between urban and rural Canada. All regions have things in common – urban areas are generally seeing economic growth and similar public policy challenges, while rural areas require policies that square better with their more difficult economic circumstances. What rural Canada requires is not more government funding, however, but for governments to subject their policy and decision-making processes to rural lenses to determine what these communities need to grow.

Ultimately, recognizing this need for rural-urban balance would benefit Canada. It would attenuate tensions between regions, and focusing on rural Canada would be much less costly than previous regional development efforts – and that would be a welcome development given the need to repair Ottawa’s balance sheet.

Canadians deserve decorum and substantive debate in Parliament

PETER MILLIKEN
VIKRAM HANDA

OPINION

Peter Milliken was Speaker of the House of Commons from 2001 to 2011.

Vikram Handa is chief operating officer of Maya Investments.

In recent Canadian parliamentary history, two notable incidents involving prominent leaders have underscored a concerning trend in parliamentary conduct. New Democratic Party Leader Jagmeet Singh and Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre were both ejected from the House of Commons within a span of just four years for their use of unparliamentary language.

Mr. Singh’s exit in June of 2020 and Mr. Poilievre’s in April of 2024 have brought attention to the evolving dynamics of political discourse within Canada’s legislative chambers.

Since the Second World War, both houses of Canada’s Parliament have often been characterized by spirited debates, competitive dynamics and strong per-

sonalities. However, never before have members or senators sacrificed the opportunity to address critical national issues in favour of crafting sound bites tailored for social media.

While robust debate and the exchange of diverse ideas are essential for shaping meaningful policy outcomes, the tone and conduct within Parliament must never descend – as it has – into fear-mongering, personal attacks, or the deployment of empty rhetorical devices.

The Canadian Parliament has seen its share of colourful moments, from the infamous “fuddleuddle” incident in which prime minister Pierre Trudeau was alleged to have said an epithet in 1971, to more contemporary debates increasingly shaped by social-media dynamics.

While such historical incidents often add flavour to parliamentary folklore, the current landscape emphasizes the challenge of maintaining decorum and substantive debate amidst the pressures of modern media and political polarization.

The current shadow over parliamentary debates in the House of Commons is not merely a reflection of any single session. Speaker, opposition leader or

member. It reflects broader societal shifts, including the influence of digital media and the rapid dissemination of confrontational rhetoric. This trend raises questions about the balance between effective communication and the integrity of parliamentary traditions rooted in respectful dialogue and substantive policy engagement.

Parliamentarians must navigate a landscape where slogans and partisan messaging often overshadow substantive policy deliberations. The focus on crafting messages for short-term effect risks undermining the fundamental role of Parliament as a forum for deliberative democracy and meaningful governance.

At its core, parliamentary debate should serve the interests of Canadians by fostering an environment where rigorous discussion is conducted with civility and integrity. By upholding principles of respectful engagement and rejecting personal attacks, parliamentarians can reinforce public trust in democratic institutions and ensure that diverse voices are heard in shaping the country’s future.

As we assess the state of political discourse, it becomes clear that the evolution of parliamen-

tary decorum is intertwined with broader societal changes. In recent years, the influence of social media and the wider temptation to prioritize sensationalism over substance have transformed the landscape of political communication, amplifying the immediacy and intensity of parliamentary exchanges.

While this can enhance transparency and public engagement, it also introduces challenges in maintaining decorum and dignity while producing substantive debate. The quest for viral moments and the pressure to craft messages that resonate in 10-second sound bites can waylay the nuanced deliberations necessary for effective policy-making.

Moreover, the polarization of Canadian politics has contributed to a climate where adversarial rhetoric and personal attacks occasionally overshadow collaborative efforts and constructive dialogue. This polarization not only impedes legislative progress but also erodes public trust in the ability of elected representatives to govern effectively on behalf of all Canadians.

It is crucial to remember that within Parliament, members are opponents engaged in debate, not enemies. A mature and con-

structive conversation should transcend rigid ideologies and blind partisanship, and it should focus instead on delivering meaningful outcomes for Canadians.

This approach demands a commitment to truth in policy discussions and a steadfast adherence to civility, while rejecting personal attacks and character assassinations.

To uphold the integrity of Canada’s democratic process, all parliamentarians must commit to elevating the quality of discourse within legislative chambers. This commitment involves promoting constructive dialogue that transcends partisan divides and promotes genuine engagement on issues that matter most to Canadians.

Canadians deserve a higher standard of parliamentary discourse. The integrity of our democratic process hinges on fostering an environment where rigorous debate is conducted with respect, integrity, and a genuine pursuit of the public good.

As custodians of public trust and stewards of our democratic institutions, parliamentarians must uphold these principles to ensure that the voices of Canadians are heard and their interests are faithfully represented.

LIFE & ARTS

OPINION | PUZZLES | WEATHER

Twitter men's wear guy has some thoughts on your outfit

Canada-born Derek Guy rose to social-media fame by offering fashion advice and skewering of the clothing choices of politicians

ANDREA WOO VANCOUVER

Derek Guy doesn't know what to make of his newfound fame.

The Canadian-born men's wear writer – better known as “the Twitter men's wear guy,” or by his handle, @dieworkwear – has become ubiquitous on the social-media platform now called X. His informative threads on men's fashion and acerbic takedowns of Internet trolls are seemingly on everyone's feeds whether they follow him or not.

On any given day, it's common to see his posts opining on the clothing choices of politicians and other public figures, delving into the historical context behind certain looks, or giving detailed threads dispensing advice on how to build a wardrobe, find shoes that fit or dress as a larger male figure.

A dressed-down Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre? “This makeover looks like what house flippers do to homes.” Former Toronto Mayor John Tory in a suit jacket, skinny trousers and sneakers? A disjointed silhouette with legs “like popsicle sticks.” Psychologist Jordan Peterson in a tweed coat, satin tie, white dress shirt and light blue jeans? “This outfit would make sense if you're meeting investors at an evening party after duck hunting at 3 p.m.”

Over a year and a half, Guy has gone from relative unknown to a reluctant influencer, with about a million followers on the platform. Users frequently tag him in posts, seeking comments or advice. After skewering the attire of English media personality Piers Morgan and Conservative pundit Ben Shapiro, both invited him on to their television shows – in-



Derek Guy's Twitter/X avatar. His profile photo is a commissioned illustration of Elliot Richardson, a late American lawyer and member of cabinet under Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. Guy said he got the illustration commissioned because he admired his style of dress.

become known for criticizing the men's fashion. Some are growing tired of his tweets.



vitations he politely declined.

The attention is somewhat unnerving to Guy, who, for a decade up until 2022, posted mostly about niche Japanese workwear brands and inside jokes to a small group of fellow men's wear enthusiasts.

“I was actually really anxious about it for a while because I'm a really private person,” he said in a phone interview from San Francisco, where he now lives.

He declines to offer many details about his upbringing or to be photographed for this story.

But he shares that his parents were refugees of the Vietnam War, who hopped from country to country in search of work, taking him along for the ride.

As an adolescent, Guy befriended Polo Ralph Lauren enthusiasts called Lo-Heads, whose style originated in the late 1980s in New York and by the early 1990s spread to California, where he would admire the aesthetic of the best dancers at his favourite clubs. He discovered mid-century jazz and French New Wave films, both of which cultivated in him an appreciation for men's tailoring that he began to blog about in 2011.

His blog name and X handle, Die Workwear, began as a playful job at the popular heritage men's wear look of men dressing like lumberjacks, said Guy, who now laughs that he's stuck with “a really stupid name.”

He attributes his explosion in popularity to a series of online events. In November, 2022, Dave Portnoy, the polarizing founder of the bro-centric sports blog Barstool Sports, announced that he had started his own watch company. Guy reposted the announcement with screenshots from Portnoy's website, commenting that it was “shameful” to sell timepieces with US\$42 quartz movements for US\$2,400.

The post gained traction, with responses including an eight-minute video reply from Portnoy in which he lashed out at “watch dorks” and haters. Another person commented that the hefty markup of Portnoy's watches was no different from what luxury brands do with cashmere sweaters, prompting Guy to respond with a thread about how cashmere is produced and the difference between low- and high-quality knits – the kind of explainer that he would come to be known for.

“I had had a few viral tweets in the past, but they were usually jokes,” he said. “This was the first viral tweet that was me breaking that jokey character and saying, ‘Here's something I think is informational.’”

A few weeks later, the social-

media platform, then recently acquired by Elon Musk, introduced a “for you” tab – an algorithmically curated feed of posts, apparently inspired by the TikTok feature of the same name – that inserted the men's wear writer into seemingly everyone's feeds.

Over a few months beginning in late 2022, his following on the platform doubled to around 100,000; he's now at about a million. With his new readership, Guy has been more careful with his posts, reining in criticism that could be seen as mean-spirited to the average follower, instead setting his sights on self-described “alpha-males” like Andrew Tate, politicians and other public figures.

While his avatar is an illustration of the late U.S. lawyer and Republican politician Elliot Richardson, whose style of dress he admired, Guy is more interested in the minutia of perfect pants than politics, though some have taken to ascribing beliefs based on his skewering of right-leaning figures.

“The man has some great sartorial insights, but one suspects he is a lib,” wrote American political commentator Michael Knowles.

The most meaningful feedback he has received to date has been from people who found his advice useful, such as the men who chose wedding suits based on his insights. His mother, a fan of American celebrity culture, has also gotten a kick out of his growing popularity. (“I told her Meghan McCain's husband yelled at me, and she went, ‘Oh, wow!’ That made her happy,” he said.)

But asked whether he might parlay his newfound fame into business opportunities, Guy said he's uncomfortable with the idea of self-promotion. He has been approached about authoring a book – an endeavour he is considering to make his mother proud.

“She feels that it's prestigious,” he said. “So, there is a part of me that wants to do that and then put it in her hands.”

David Lynch likely retiring, can no longer leave house

DANIELLE BROADWAY

Twins Peaks creator David Lynch has said he will most likely retire because of an emphysema diagnosis, a lung disease with no known cure.

The 78-year-old American filmmaker said in an interview for the magazine Sight and Sound's September cover story that he is no longer able to leave his home, as he is afraid of contracting COVID-19, which would threaten his health even further.

“I've gotten emphysema from smoking for so long, and so I'm homebound whether I like it or not. ... And now, because of COVID, it would be very bad for me to get sick, even with a cold,” Lynch told the British magazine.

The *Eraserhead* and *The Elephant Man* filmmaker also mentioned that he can only walk a short distance before he runs out of oxygen.

For Lynch, it is unlikely that he will ever direct in-person again, but he mentioned the possibility of directing remotely.

“I would really hate that,” he added.

REUTERS

Rap icon Snoop Dogg has exploded on the Olympics' global stage. He's just being himself

JONATHAN LANDRUM JR. PARIS

Snoop Dogg steps out of a sleek black SUV, his entourage erupts into chants of “Snoop, Snoop, Snoop!” outside the NBC set.

Decked out in a custom-made, Noah Lyles-themed USA sweat-suit, the ultra-smooth entertainer glides past the adoring fans with flashing phone cameras into the Musee de l'Homme. Inside, his long-time friend Martha Stewart greets him with a hug. They chat, clink champagne glasses, and then he “crip walks” onto the set to film a Sunday night segment.

OK, the show can start – Snoop has arrived. Literally.

At the Paris Games, grand entrances have become the norm in Snoop's spectacular Olympic life.

“When the lights are on, that's when I shine the best,” he told the Associated Press after returning from watching Lyles' historic victory in the 100-metre sprint and filming a prime-time segment with Mike Tirico and Stewart, a surprise guest.

“This opportunity was nothing but a chance for me to show the world what it's supposed to look like when you put the right person in the right environment,” Snoop said.

Snoop, 52, has become the star of the Paris Games, ascending to new heights with several memorable moments. He's carried the Olympic torch, captivated audiences as NBC's prime-time correspondent, swam with Michael Phelps, attended a U.S. women's soccer game with Megan Rapinoe, danced with Simone Biles and Jordan Chiles, and cheered on Caleb Dressel alongside the swimmer's wife and son.

The rap icon is currently in his comfort zone. And sleep? Even that's having a hard time catching up with the on-the-go multi-hyphenate entertainer.

“It's more about relaxing rather than sleeping because I'm hav-



Snoop Dogg and Martha Stewart watch the dressage team Grand Prix final in Versailles, France, on Saturday. ASSOCIATED PRESS

ing so much fun,” he said. “This ain't the town to sleep in. This ain't the time to sleep. This is time to be on it like you want it. It's different events happening day and night. I want to be active with everything, because I love the American athletes and competition. This is what I'm here for.”

Stewart said she's extremely proud of how Snoop is successfully taking on the challenge. She was impressed by his ability to genuinely connect with Olympians and their family members.

“I think he's done an amazing job for the Olympics,” said Stewart, who attended a equestrian team dressage event with Snoop on her 83rd birthday Saturday. For the horseback riding competition, the duo wore matching helmets, black jackets and white pants.

“This is the celebration of the finest athleticism ever in the world, and he has made it so accessible to everybody,” she continued.

Snoop also has the Games' most in-demand souvenir: a Snoop Dogg pin, which shows him wearing a blue top while exhaling rings coloured the same as the Olympics logo. He's gifted one

to tennis star Coco Gauff, but passed on offering more details for now on how to obtain more, saying, “I'm going to be honest with you. I have zero answers for that.”

Meanwhile, Snoop has mastered the art of being himself in front of the television camera – even for a global audience. He initially went into his correspondent assignment, thinking NBC wanted more “buttoned-up” commentary from him until network executives encouraged him to be his authentic self – especially after seeing his in-person potential during the U.S. Olympic trials.

At the trials, Snoop had done casual on-video interviews with a few Olympians about their sports, including women's basketball player A'ja Wilson, gymnast Sunisa Lee, skateboarder Jagger Eaton and beach volleyball players Sara Hughes and Kelly Cheng. He met with Lyles and participated in a 200-metre race – clocking in at 34.44 seconds – with NBC analyst and former Trinidadian track star Ato Boldon and former U.S. national champion Wallace Spearman.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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I had no idea how much I picked up from my father until I became a new dad

FIRST PERSON

Parental sacrifices, love, leadership, humility, truth and compassion. I have been shown. I am grateful. I am doing, **Joel Diebolt** writes

As a recent new father of two, I sometimes recall a time where I learned a lot about parenting without knowing it.

The scene is set at breakfast during my childhood. A large table, a family of five gathered, a scene of family and food, plus a golden retriever not allowed at the table. The sun sneaks through the treeline into a large picture window, a spot of warmth shines onto the table setting. My sisters' springy curls reveal the sparkle of newly summer sun-bitten blonde hair.

Through an open window, the trickle of air, whispering a smell of spring dew, a passenger on a subtle breeze passing through and intermixing and deferring to the odour of breakfast. There is a familiar smell of bread being heated.

All the while, gentle sounds of nature flow in through open windows, the subtle symphony of a songbird competing with the convulsive utterances of a blue jay. The sounds of nature regress to the sound of a knife, a knife who is preoccupied with his old friend, peanut butter. The moment the old friends reunite, they part ways, the knife running across the landscape of toast. The running knife signalling an invitation to jam, who acknowledges the invite through clinking noises as a spoon eagerly searches the bottom of the jar.

In the midst of this effort, a family enjoys breakfast. One man – the father – leads the charge on the morning sustenance. He's one of two leaders, and the father is at his post in his squeaky, worn-out spring chair. A chair, which is the envy of all of his children, with its deep hue of familiar comfort and parental sacrifice. There he sat on that chair, our dad, directing the flow of provisions. Flirting with the

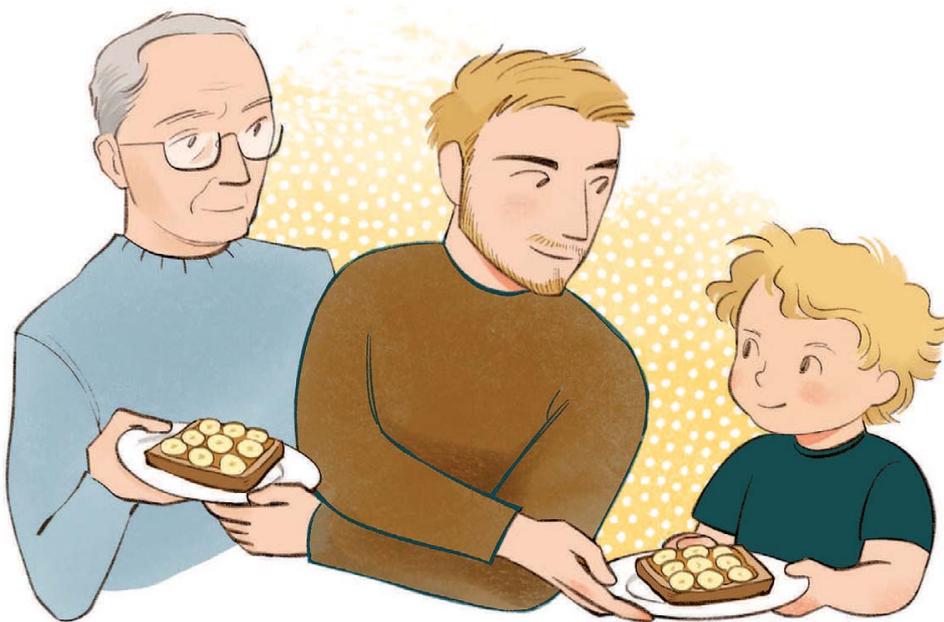


ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX SIKLOS

other leader – asking his honey to pass the honey, describing in great detail past events and other great undertakings. Stories of adventure and excitement punctuated with lessons in humility and lessons learned. All this while, specific nuances were signatory of his preferred breakfast order as the meal progressed: jam first, then butter, peanut butter next and finally, sliced bananas. Crosswise, not lengthwise. The blueprint laid out for all to see.

And like any great leader of any operation, allowances and sacrifices were made. And at the time, the young participants of this breakfast did not realize the sacrifices. Our dad, one of the two leaders of breakfast, threw himself onto perceived breakfast grenades: banana skins with brown pocking. Brown and limp. On the

fringe of mushy. Not quite ready for banana bread, but children would not eat them. And the heel of the loaf, menacing and scary, grumpy, the real breakfast grenade at the table. Both items were avoided at all costs by his offspring. My dad tried to explain to these leaders of tomorrow how the heel was the best piece and the browner and mushier the banana, the sweeter it tasted. His attempt to woo us, or his positiveness shrouding the obvious pitfalls of the unwanted fruit and bread, were lost to us at the time and discovered far into the future.

Sitting at my own table with my own children so many years later, I again watch golden curls that capture the sun. Watching my daughter and son, I sit there peeling a banana, in my own way, but with influence from those before. I recreate my child-

hood breakfast in, again, my own way, but with guidance from the leaders before. I now have a glimmer of understanding. The simple brown banana and the heel of the bread becoming a symbol of something. Breakfast sacrifices. Sacrifices made by my parents. I am honoured for the experience, though subtle and not clear while sitting at the table so many years ago, but now, as I raise a young family, I begin to understand what I was being shown at breakfast. Parental sacrifices, parental love, leadership, humility, truth and compassion. I have been shown. I am grateful. I am doing.

Joel Diebolt lives in Thunder Bay.

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

Male characters still more than double female ones in Hollywood

JAKE COYLE NEW YORK

In recent years the movie industry has gone through the streaming revolution, the pandemic, labour strikes and “Barbenheimer.” But after countless upheavals in Hollywood, you’re still more than twice as likely to see male speaking characters in theatrical releases than you are female ones.

Just 32 per cent of speaking characters in the top 100 movies at the box office in 2023 were women or girls, according to the University of Southern California’s Annenberg Inclusion Initiative annual report released Monday. That’s very nearly the same percentage as when Stacy L. Smith first began the study in 2007. Then, it was 30 per cent of speaking characters.

The gender imbalance was pronounced in other areas, too. Just

30 per cent of leading roles in the top films were women or girls, a huge decrease of 14 per cent from 2022 and roughly the same figure as in 2010. Only 11 per cent of films were gender balanced, with girls or women in 45-54.9 per cent of speaking roles.

“No matter how you examine the data, 2023 was not the ‘Year of the Woman.’ We continue to report the same trends for girls and women on screen, year in and year out,” Smith said in a statement. “It is clear that there is either a dismissal of women as an audience for more than one or two films per year, a refusal to find ways to create meaningful change, or both.

“If the industry wants to survive its current moment, it must examine its failure to employ half the population on screen,” Smith added.

Barbie may have been the No. 1 film at the box office last year, but,

as has historically been the case, a few prominent releases don’t by themselves move the needle against persistent trends.

Just 32 per cent of speaking characters in the top 100 movies at the box office in 2023 were women or girls.

The USC study doesn’t analyze what Hollywood makes, just what’s most widely watched in theatres. That leaves out a wide swath of movies produced for streaming, as well as most independent releases. But in capturing the majority of popular films in theatres, the Annenberg Inclusion Initiative tracks how much the industry’s vows of inclusivity actually line up with what’s on movie screens.

In an election year where much

of Hollywood will be backing Vice-President Kamala Harris to become the first female American president, researchers concluded that “progressive Hollywood” is “actually not progressive at all.”

The stubborn lack of progress for female characters in film is only more striking when compared to some of the gains made by under-represented racial and ethnic groups. While there remain major inequalities there, too, some findings show considerable change.

In 2023, 44 per cent of speaking characters came from under-represented groups, roughly matching or even slightly exceeding the racial makeup of the U.S. population (41 per cent). The percentage of white characters decreased to 56 per cent in 2023, down from 62 per cent the year prior. In 2007, 78 per cent of all characters were white.

Among protagonists, under-

represented racial and ethnic groups made up 37 per cent of main characters, an increase of 6 per cent from 2022 and more than ever before. In 2007, that figure was 13 per cent.

Last year’s main characters were 12.6 per cent Black, 5.2 per cent Hispanic or Latino characters and 18.4 per cent Asian. None of the 100 top movies featured casts that matched U.S. demographics for Hispanic/Latinos, who account for 19.1 per cent of the population – and even more of ticket buyers.

Many other groups were closer to invisible, entirely, in 2023’s top box-office films. There were just five movies out of the 100 with an LGBTQ lead or co-lead. Just 2.2 per cent of the films included a speaking character with a disability. And only four speaking characters were non-binary.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Meet Wisin – the ‘puppy luchador’ who has become a Mexican viral meme

MARIANA MARTÍNEZ BARBA MEXICO CITY

In a youth centre’s parking lot in Mexico City’s Tacuba neighbourhood, Baha Men’s iconic song *Who Let the Dogs Out* blares through a pair of large speakers. As the infectious melody reaches a crowd of more than 100 people, they all begin to chant, “Wisin, Wisin, Wisin!”

Quickly, a giant, fluffy creature descends three flights of stairs, firing up fans as he prances around the perimeter of a wrestling ring. Kids run to give him a tight embrace while parents offer him high fives. A woman holds up a sign that says, “Wisin I love you!” adorned with paw prints.

With floppy ears and a tail on his costume coming unstitched after all the wrestling, Wisin, the “puppy luchador,” has captured the imagination of fans across Mexico.

Since the early summer, videos of a wrestler dressed as a puppy brawling in “lucha libre” matches have been making the rounds on Mexican social media. Though the popular Mexican form of wrestling has been around for decades, Wisin came onto the fighting scene only a few months ago.

Lucha libre has suffered in re-



Fans cheer on Wisin at a lucha libre event at the Institute of Youth in Mexico City last Thursday. Wisin was originally created by the institute to motivate children to exercise. FERNANDO LLANO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

cent years, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, when almost all matches were cancelled, and an unusually high number of wrestlers died of COVID-19. Wrestling, the second most-followed sport in the country, also fell victim to drug cartel violence in 2022.

Wisin was originally created by the Institute of Youth in Mexico City to motivate children to exercise. However, his character quickly evolved into a viral meme across Instagram, TikTok, and X. One of the first videos of Wisin

to emerge showed him wrestling at the same youth centre in early May, soaring onto the ring, clocking one million views on X.

Another fan video edit with more than 500,000 likes has a tongue-in-cheek caption that reads, “My psychologist: A puppy luchador doesn’t exist.” The video then proceeds to show proof of Wisin waving at fans and backflipping into an opponent.

Mexico has a history of taking everyday characters and turning them into offbeat but wildly popular memes that often translate

into the physical world. In 2022, Mexican music fans converted the mascot of a nationwide pharmacy, Dr. Simi, into plush toys to throw at their favourite artists.

Similarly, Wisin’s popularity has skyrocketed in real life. His fights draw fans of all ages – Mexican children and adults alike. Given that lucha libre bouts are mostly dominated by older male fans, he has created a space for kids to enjoy the spectacle.

At Wisin’s latest fight, Juan Carlos Naviera Torres, 35, waited on the sidelines with his six-year-old son, Jose Isaac. Torres had a smile across his face while his son clutched a small puppy bag he brought in support of Wisin. “I’ve enjoyed lucha libre since I was young, now my son can enjoy it,

too,” he said.

“I think he [Wisin] is an inspiration,” said Michelle Magdaleno, who brought her toddler to the match. “I haven’t seen him fight yet, but I know he’s good.”

Joined by his fellow luchadores “Andy Panda” and “Gravity,” Wisin was ready to fight against another trio of opponents.

As the rain poured and the crowd dispersed, Wisin didn’t back off. He climbed onto the side of the ring, flying into the air to pummel his rival to the ground. “One, two, three!” screamed the referee as Wisin pinned his foe. He made a celebratory run around the ring – the “puppy luchador” was victorious again.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY’S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

TODAY’S KENKEN SOLUTION

5-	6	1	5	2	12x	3	4
11+	2	5	6	3	3-	4	1
	4	2	3	6	1	5	
15x	5	3	4	1	2	6	3-
	3	6	1	4	5	2	
	1	4	2	5	2-	6	3

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REPORT ON BUSINESS 

OTTAWA/QUEBEC EDITION ■ TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024 ■ GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

■ **S&P/TSX**
22,227.63
Markets closed

▼ **DOW**
38,703.27
-1,033.99

▼ **S&P 500**
5,186.33
-160.23

▼ **NASDAQ**
16,200.08
-576.08

■ **DOLLAR**
72.16/1.3858
Unchanged

▼ **GOLD (oz.)**
US\$2,444.40
-25.40

▼ **OIL (WTI)**
US\$72.94
-0.58

■ **GCAN (10-YR)**
2.99%
Unchanged

Investors question whether Fed will cut rates as markets tumble

U.S. central bank only makes emergency moves in extreme situations, analysts say



Global stock markets plunged on Monday as investors worried that the U.S. economy could be headed for a recession and investors dumped technology stocks and other risky assets. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

JEANNA SMIALEK

As turmoil swept through global financial markets on Monday, fuelled by concerns that the economy is headed for a hard landing, investors began to speculate that the U.S. Federal Reserve could jump in to cushion the fallout with an emergency interest-rate cut.

The Fed only considers emergency cuts – ones that occur outside of its regularly scheduled meetings – in extreme situations. The most recent one happened on March 15, 2020, when central bankers slashed borrowing costs to near-zero as the onset of the coronavirus pandemic sent panic coursing across global markets.

Monday's sell-off was less drastic than that moment. Investors are dumping stocks because they have become nervous that the economy might fall into a recession after a few weak economic data releases in the United States, including a jobs report released Friday that showed unemployment rising. Joblessness rarely rises sharply outside of an economic downturn.

The data fuelled serious concerns that Fed officials have fallen behind on adjust-

ing their policy stance. Central bankers have held interest rates at 5.3 per cent for a full year, a relatively high setting that is making it expensive to borrow to buy a home or expand a business. The risk is that Fed policy makers might have choked off demand too much for too long, causing a slowdown in the labour market that will begin to snowball into wider economic pain.

As stock indexes slumped worldwide, investors began to bet heavily that the Fed would cut interest rates sharply in the coming months. While a rate cut at the Fed's September meeting was widely expected even before the employment report last week, traders now see a large reduction of half a percentage point or more – bigger than the quarter-point moves that the Fed tends to announce during normal times.

Some outside commentators called for rapid and drastic reductions, starting imminently. But Joseph LaVorgna, chief economist at SMBC Nikko Securities, argued in a note that an inter-meeting cut "would look like a panic move."

And some long-time Fed watchers pointed out that the central bank only tends to make moves between meetings

when there is a risk that markets are going to stop functioning properly, not just because stock prices are falling.

"I think what you generally find is that they tend to happen in periods of credit market disruption and financial system freezing up – right now, markets are having not a good day, but I think it's orderly," said Michael Feroli, chief U.S. economist at J.P. Morgan.

Austan Goolsbee, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, was asked whether the Fed could make an emergency rate cut during an interview on CNBC Monday morning.

He replied that the Fed's job was to maximize employment, stabilize prices and maintain financial stability, and suggested that if conditions start weakening across the board, "We're going to fix it."

Mr. Goolsbee also noted that jobs numbers come with a margin of error – the numbers can jump around for quirky reasons, and they get revised – and suggested that it was too early to draw firm conclusions.

But he and other economists have been watching an array of data showing signs that the economy may be slowing.

■ FED, B6

Google's search-engine domination illegal, U.S. judge rules in antitrust case

DAVID SHEPARDSON
MIKE SCARCELLA WASHINGTON

Alphabet Inc.'s Google broke the law with monopolistic behaviour over online search and related advertising, a federal judge ruled on Monday, the first victory for U.S. antitrust authorities who have filed several lawsuits challenging Big Tech's market dominance.

The decision is a significant win for the Justice Department, which had sued the search-engine giant over its control of about 90 per cent of the online search market and 95 per cent on smartphones.

"The court reaches the following conclusion: Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to maintain its monopoly," U.S. District Justice Amit Mehta wrote.

His ruling paves the way for a second trial to determine potential fixes, such as breaking up the company or requiring the company to stop paying smartphone makers billions of dollars annually to set Google as the default search engine on new phones.

The "remedy" phase could be lengthy, followed by potential appeals to the D.C. Circuit and U.S. Supreme Court. The legal wrangling could play out into next year, or even 2026.

Shares of Google parent Alphabet fell 4.3

per cent on Monday as part of a broad tech share decline.

Alphabet said it plans to appeal Justice Mehta's ruling.

Justice Mehta noted that Google had paid US\$26.3-billion in 2021 alone to ensure that its search engine is the default on smartphones and browsers, and to keep its dominant market share.

"The default is extremely valuable real estate. ... Even if a new entrant were positioned from a quality standpoint to bid for the default when an agreement expires, such a firm could compete only if it were prepared to pay partners upwards of billions of dollars in revenue share and make them whole for any revenue shortfalls resulting from the change," Justice Mehta wrote.

He noted "Google, of course, recognizes that losing defaults would dramatically impact its bottom line. For instance, Google has projected that losing the Safari default would result in a significant drop in queries and billions of dollars in lost revenues."

The ruling is the first major decision in a series of cases taking on alleged monopolies in Big Tech.

This case, filed by the Trump administration, went before a judge from September to November.

■ GOOGLE, B6

TECHNOLOGY

Legal battle between CrowdStrike, Delta Airlines heats up over global outage ■ B2

SHIPPING

Meet the man carrying the first shipment from the Trans Mountain pipeline extension ■ B3

REAL ESTATE

Despite rate cut, Toronto home sales fall as buyers remain unmotivated ■ B3

COMPANIES

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MICROSOFT	B3
NVIDIA	B3

There's anxiety in markets, but that's not the case for the economy

JOHN RAPLEY

OPINION

To listen to market observers, the Federal Reserve is sleeping as the house burns down. After the week began with sharp falls in Asian stock markets, American analysts began calling for emergency interest-rate cuts from the Fed. Otherwise, they say, falling stock prices risked turning into an outright crash.

And to many market participants, it sure looked that way when American markets opened on Monday deep in the red. But the truth is that share prices, while down a lot, didn't quite collapse. The VIX index, a measure of anticipated volatility in asset values, while high, came well down off its peak.

There's clearly anxiety in markets, but there's yet to be the sort of massive sell-off that triggers contagion through the financial system sufficient to justify emergency rate cuts.

Those calling for them say it's not just markets that should concern us. They say that the U.S. economy is slowing so fast it may already be in recession. There's been much talk over the last few days of the Sahn rule, a measure of the change in unemployment that is used to determine when the economy has entered a recession. Friday's weak jobs report triggered it, leading many economists to demand the Fed start easing at once.

But the Sahn rule, while popular in markets and respected in central banks, is hardly canonical. There's been little scholarly work to test it empirically. Moreover, like all statistical measures, it relies on the quality of the data that go into it, which is always problematic with employment data.

For what it's worth, the rule's inventor, Claudia Sahn, has given her own opinion that the U.S. economy is currently heading toward a recession, but isn't actually in one.

Arguably, investors are mapping their own pain onto the economy as a whole.

■ RAPLEY, B4

Opinion It looks like the generative AI bubble is finally bursting ■ B4

U.S. firm Hines to spend up to \$2-billion on Canadian housing

RACHELLE YOUNGLAI
REAL ESTATE REPORTER

Real estate giant Hines Interests LP is looking to invest up to \$2-billion in Canada, and high on its shopping list is land for rental housing developments.

The Houston-headquartered firm, which owns and manages about 850 properties in 30 countries, views apartment building developments as a top investment in Canada given the country's shortage of affordable homes. Its significant pool of capital will let it compete for deals at a time when the commercial real estate sector is reeling from higher construction and borrowing costs.

Across the country, the typical price of a home exceeds \$730,000 and tops \$1-million in the major cities of Toronto and Vancouver.

■ HINES, B6

SPORTS

■ B10-B15

OLYMPICS Mondo Duplantis sets pole-vault record in gold-medal performance ■ B10

OLYMPICS Paris misses the good old days of Russians, Cathal Kelly writes ■ B15

CrowdStrike pushes back against Delta suit

Cybersecurity company questioned why airline struggled so much more than peers after outage

LAUREN HIRSCH
NIRAJ CHOKSHI

A legal dispute is heating up between cybersecurity company **CrowdStrike Holdings Inc.** and **Delta Air Lines Inc.** over a global technology outage last month.

In a letter sent to Delta on Sunday that was reviewed by The New York Times, CrowdStrike's lawyers at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart and Sullivan pushed back against claims that it was solely responsible for the thousands of flights the airline cancelled after the outage.

A flawed software update issued by CrowdStrike led to widespread technological disruptions, affecting many businesses, including airlines. But while many carriers recovered within a day or two, Delta struggled to restore its operations. The airline cancelled about 5,000 flights, about 37 per cent of its schedule, over four days, according to FlightAware, a service that monitors air travel. About three in four of the airline's remaining flights were delayed.

In a message to employees Friday, Delta chief executive officer Ed Bastian said the company had hired a prominent law firm, Boies Schiller Flexner, to pursue legal claims against CrowdStrike. Mr. Bastian had estimated in a CNBC interview that the outage cost the airline about US\$500-million, including tens of millions of dollars per day in compensation and hotels.

CrowdStrike's letter Sunday was written in response to a message the company had received from Delta's lawyers. In it, CrowdStrike apologized to Delta, its employees and its customers. The company also said that it had worked closely with the airline's information security team after the outage, but that the threat of a



Delta cancelled about 5,000 flights, about 37 per cent of its schedule, over four days after a flawed software update issued by CrowdStrike led to widespread technological disruptions. Other carriers, including American and United, rebounded faster from the outage. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

lawsuit "distracts from this work and has contributed to a misleading narrative that CrowdStrike is responsible for Delta's IT decisions and response to the outage."

The cybersecurity company said its CEO had offered Mr. Bastian on-site help to deal with the outage, but received no response. When CrowdStrike reiterated its offer, Delta declined.

CrowdStrike's lawyers asked Delta why the airline struggled so much more than its peers, why it turned down the offer of help and said that any liability CrowdStrike faces should be limited to less than US\$10-million. The company also demanded that Delta preserve a list of documents related to the outage in light of its litigation threat.

Details of why the airline struggled more than others will likely emerge from an investigation started by the Department of Transportation after the outage. In an interview with NPR last week, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg suggested that Delta might have been especially vulnerable.

"Their systems seem to have been more dependent on pieces of software that were affected by CrowdStrike," he said. "And we're told also that their crew scheduling system for positioning people basically got overloaded."

Other carriers, including American and United, rebounded faster from the outage. Aviation experts

told the Times that Delta leaned more heavily on cancellations than delays and had trouble getting operations back to normal. Its main hub, in Atlanta, is also one of the busiest airports in the world.

Southwest Airlines experienced a similar, though much larger disruption, in 2022 when winter storms severely hampered several U.S. carriers. The airline struggled much more than others because it lacked enough equipment to cope with the weather, which hit two airports important to its network. A system Southwest used to match crews to flights was also unable to keep up with a large number of changes. In the end, Southwest cancelled

nearly 17,000 flights — more than a third of those scheduled — over the last 10 days of that year.

In the letter Sunday, CrowdStrike said its liability with respect to Delta's outage is limited and criticized how the airline handled the disruption.

"Should Delta pursue this path, Delta will have to explain to the public, its shareholders and ultimately a jury why CrowdStrike took responsibility for its actions — swiftly, transparently and constructively — while Delta did not," it said.

Asked for a comment, a representative for Delta referred to Mr. Bastian's CNBC interview.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Japan relies on foreign workers, but politicians are reluctant to create pathways for them to stay

MOTOKO RICH
KIUKO NOTOYA MAEBASHI, JAPAN

Ngu Thazin wanted to leave her war-torn country for a better future. She set her sights on Japan.

In Myanmar, she studied Japanese and graduated with a chemistry degree from one of her country's most prestigious universities. Yet she gladly took a job in Japan changing diapers and bathing residents at a nursing home in a midsize city.

"To be honest, I want to live in Japan because it is safe," said Ms. Thazin, who hopes eventually to pass an exam that will allow her to work as a licensed caregiver. "And I want to send my family money."

Japan desperately needs people such as Ms. Thazin to fill jobs left open by a declining and aging population. The number of foreign workers has quadrupled since 2007, to more than two million, in a country of 125 million people. Many of these workers escaped low wages, political repression or armed conflict in their home countries.

But even as foreign employees become much more visible in Japan, working as convenience store cashiers, hotel clerks and restaurant servers, they are treated with ambivalence. Politicians remain reluctant to create pathways for foreign workers, especially those in low-skill jobs, to stay indefinitely. That may eventually cost Japan in its competition with neighbours such as South Korea and Taiwan, or even places farther afield including Australia and Europe, that are also scrambling to find labour.

Political resistance to immigration in long-insular Japan, as well as a public that is sometimes wary of integrating newcomers, has led to a nebulous legal and support system that makes it difficult for foreigners to put down roots. Foreign-born workers are paid on average about 30 per cent less than their Japanese counterparts, according to government data. Fearful of losing their right to stay in Japan, workers often have precarious relationships with their employers, and career advancement can be elusive.

Japan's policies are designed for "people to work in Japan for preferably a short period of time," said Yang Liu, a fellow at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry in Tokyo. "If the system continues as it is, the probability that foreign workers will stop coming has become very high."

In 2018, the government passed a law authorizing a sharp increase in the number of low-skilled "guest laborers" allowed into the country. This year, the government committed to more than doubling the number of such workers over the next five years, to 820,000. It also revised a technical internship program that employers had used as a source of cheap labour and that



Gurung Nissan, right, from Nepal, lays out a mattress at Ginshotei Awashima, a traditional Japanese hot springs inn in Oigami Onsen, Japan on Saturday. NORIKO HAYASHI/NYT

workers and labour activists had criticized as fostering abuses.

Still, politicians are far from flinging open the country's borders. Japan has yet to experience the kind of significant migration that has convulsed Europe or the United States. The total number of foreign-born residents in Japan — including non-working spouses and children — is 3.4 million, less than 3 per cent of the population. The percentage in Germany and the United States, for instance, is close to five times that.

Japan has tightened some rules even as it has loosened others. This spring, the governing Liberal Democratic Party pushed through a revision to Japan's immigration law that would allow permanent residency to be revoked if a person fails to pay taxes. Critics warned that the policy could make it easier to withdraw residency status for more minor infractions, such as failing to show a police officer an identification card upon request.

In a separate parliamentary committee, Justice Minister Ryuji Koizumi said the revision was intended to "realize a society where we can coexist with foreigners," by making sure they "abide by the minimum rules necessary for living in Japan."

Long before foreigners can obtain permanent residency, they must navigate labyrinthine visa requirements, including language and skills tests. Unlike in Germany, where the government offers new foreign residents up to 400 hours of language courses at a subsidized rate of just over \$2 per lesson, Japan has no organized language training for foreign workers.

While politicians say the country should do a better job of teaching Japanese, "they are not yet ready to go as far as pouring money into this from taxes," said Toshinori

Kawaguchi, director of the foreign workers affairs division at the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

That leaves individual municipalities and employers to decide whether and how often to provide language training. The nursing home operator that employs Ms. Thazin in Maebashi, the capital of Gunma prefecture in central Japan, offers some of its caregivers one day of group Japanese lessons, as well as one more 45-minute lesson, each month. Workers who prepare meals receive just one 45-minute lesson a month. Akira Higuchi, president of the company, Hotaka Kai, said he gives workers an incentive to study Japanese on their own. Those who pass the second-highest level of a government Japanese language proficiency test, he said, "will be treated the same as Japanese people, with the same salary and bonuses."

Across Gunma prefecture, reliance on foreign workers is unmistakable. In Oigami Onsen, a rundown mountainside village where many restaurants, shops and hotels are shuttered, half of the 20 full-time workers at Ginshotei Awashima, a traditional Japanese hot springs inn, are originally from Myanmar, Nepal or Vietnam.

With the inn's deeply rural location, "there are no more Japanese people who want to work here," said Wataru Tsutani, the owner.

Ngun Nei Par, the inn's general manager, graduated from a university in Myanmar with a degree in geography. She hopes that the Japanese government will smooth a path toward citizenship that would allow her to bring the rest of her family to Japan someday.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

TikTok to drop rewards feature after EU raises concerns

FRANKFURT, GERMANY

TikTok has agreed to withdraw a rewards feature that raised concerns about its potential to encourage excessive screen time, particularly among children, the European Union's executive commission said Monday.

It was the first resolution of an investigation under the 27-country EU's sweeping Digital Services Act, which went into effect in February and aims to ensure a "safe and accountable online environment" by regulating large digital platforms.

TikTok made the commitment without conceding the feature violated the Digital Services Act, officials said.

The commission has, however, ruled that the withdrawal is legally binding, which "sends a clear message to the entire social-media industry," said Margrethe Vestager, European commission for digital affairs.

"Design features on platforms with addictive effects put the well-being of their users at risk," she said in a statement. "That's why we have made TikTok's commitments under the DSA legally binding."

The case involves TikTok Lite, a low-bandwidth version of the app released in Spain and France. It allowed users to earn points for things such as following creators, liking content or inviting friends to join TikTok. The points could be exchanged for Amazon vouchers and gift cards on PayPal. TikTok said rewards were restricted to users 18 years and older, who had to verify their age. Users could watch up to one hour a day of videos to earn rewards, which were capped at the equivalent of €1 (\$1.51) a day.

The commission opened an investigation in April owing to concerns that TikTok has not done a diligent assessment required under the act of the feature's potential "addictive effect," especially for children, "given suspected absence of effective age verification mechanisms on TikTok."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Captain of first tanker from expanded Trans Mountain Pipeline says crew is proud

Raghuvendra Rai, 42, carried away a historic shipment of crude oil

CHRIS WILSON-SMITH

If you were standing in the right place and time on the south shore of Burnaby, B.C., you might have seen an oil tanker chugging its way toward the Pacific Ocean. You might rightfully have thought nothing of it: This is a harbour; that is a ship. But this particular vessel was the Dubai Angel – a tanker carrying with it the first shipment of crude oil from the recently expanded Trans Mountain pipeline.

As it set out late this spring on its weeks-long journey to the Port of Laizhou in China, the Aframax-class tanker was carrying not just 550,000 barrels of Access Western Blend but also the weight of more than a dozen years of acrimonious debate over ownership, energy and the future of Canada's economy.

At the helm was Captain Raghuvendra Rai, a 42-year-old father of young twin girls from a small town called Azamgarh, in the landlocked Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

Capt. Rai has sailed Aframax tankers for the length of his 20-year career, one in which he has carried out missions across millions of nautical miles. In most respects, then, the operation early that morning at the Westridge Marine Terminal in Burnaby was business as usual. But his job as captain requires staying on top of geopolitical and industry news, so the moment was not lost on him and his crew.

In an e-mail interview that spanned several weeks as he navigated his precious cargo to China (and back to B.C. for another shipment), Capt. Rai describes that historic morning, the added dangers of sailing in the perilous world of 2024, and what happens next.

With all of your responsibilities at the command-and-control centre, are you able to stay on top of the news and economic developments surrounding your industry?

It's a busy job, but I am able to follow industry news and economic developments. We get daily updates on industry and other relevant news. We have a daily subscription of maritime news, which is via e-mail, and we receive regular updates from our company.

When you carried out those 550,000 barrels of oil from B.C.'s coast on June 23, was it business as usual, or were you aware of the significance of that moment for Canada?

From the operations perspective it was business as usual, but onboard we were aware of the significance of our call to this terminal.

Safety is always at the prime of our operations and this being a maiden call to this terminal, our operations were closely monitored by Transport Canada and authorities.

We were proud to be the first vessel loading at a brand-new terminal worth billions of dollars since a new expansion of the major pipeline was completed in the port of Vancouver.



Captain Raghuvendra Rai, a 42-year-old father of young twin girls from a small town called Azamgarh in the landlocked Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, has sailed Aframax tankers for 20 years of his career, and carried out missions across millions of nautical miles.

Such a project will surely bring hope for economic prosperity not only to locals but the international shipping as a whole. We pray for its continued success.

Can you recall what that morning was like? Were there any added layers of complexity or added challenges? There might have been a lot at stake for industry watchers here, but perhaps it was like any other day for you?

There weren't any specific complexities or additional challenges during the call. The morning was pretty good – calm weather with some fog and rain, which is normal during this time of the year.

The approach to the terminal went well, with the assistance of harbour pilots. The stretch of transit from Juan de Fuca entrance up to the berth was navigated in almost 22 hours.

We did have an issue with the change of crew in this port. An Indian national arriving in Canada to join the vessel (and to make his way home) needed a Canadian

visa and there is no visa on arrival for seafarers with valid Seafarer Identity Document (SID) unlike other countries. In Britain, for example.

Were you met by anyone from the government or did you just work and meet with your usual peers and partners at the port?

As for meeting anyone from the government, no, not for the cargo or terminal. Only government officials we met during our stay were from border patrol, immigration and customs. We did have representatives from our charterers present on board. I think they just wanted to oversee the first operation.

As you monitor the news, what is important for you to know and how often are you updated? Daily?

Industry news is definitely relevant but a brief every morning is not always required. Although certain updates might be critical and we are briefed about them ASAP.

For example, the shipping crisis in the Red Sea has resulted in a lot of updated protocols for us.

Are these updated protocols factored into business as usual now?

If you are transiting through or near areas of security concern, then yes. We adopt various measures such as rerouting the ship, hardening the vessel by using razor wires and transiting in convoys protected by naval forces.

Vessels are also avoiding the Suez Canal and Red Sea altogether and instead transiting the Cape of Good Hope. Commercial vessels like ours can not do much against missiles and drone attacks.

When you were no longer on Canadian waters and hit the open sea, did you notice a difference either physically or mentally for you or your crew? Is it a relief to no longer have the eyes of a coast guard on you?

Being out in the ocean does mean that it's less hectic for us and mostly routine, but being ashore, too, has its positives. A lot of my crew went ashore in Vancouver and had a good time shopping and sightseeing. Our encounters with the Coast Guard are generally positive ... It is very rare, in these parts of the world, for one to have issues with the coast guard if you're complying with all regulations.

Will you be repeating this route over the long term?

Our vessel is, in what is known in the shipping industry, the tramp trade. This means that the vessel is not always following a set route and can be chartered for various types of voyages. That being said, the vessel can be chartered by the same company again and might repeat the voyage. Coincidentally, we are currently heading back to Vancouver to load crude oil from Westridge once again.

How long are you on the boat over the course of the year? Is it off and on like many of Canada's oil-sands workers?

You may say a sailor's life is similar to workers on Canada's oil fields. We are also rotational employees, and we have our time both ashore and on ship split appropriately.

As a Master, I serve on board for a period of around four months before proceeding to leave. Being a contractual employee, I have the liberty to choose my return, which is probably after a period of two to three months of vacation ashore. This entails around two contracts per year.

When you're not on the boat, where do you live, and what do you like to do?

When not sailing, I am a family man. I love spending time with my family – my parents, wife and lovely twin four-year-old daughters. I am an Indian national, hailing from the town of Azamgarh in the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is a land-locked state in India and the sea is quite far away, but once I came to sea, it became my passion.

This interview has been edited and condensed.

Toronto home sales drop in July as buyers remain unmotivated despite cuts to interest rate

RACHELLE YOUNGLAI
REAL ESTATE REPORTER

Toronto home sales fell in July despite a second recent interest rate cut, as inventory piled up and sapped the motivation of buyers to make purchases.

Although buyers had been waiting for the Bank of Canada to cut rates, the slightly cheaper cost of mortgages has not spurred a flurry of activity.

Instead, homeowners have been putting their homes up for sale, especially those who own condos. Active listings, or the amount of inventory up for sale, are at the highest level since the 2008-09 financial crisis.

Meanwhile, the number of home sales fell 1.7 per cent from June to July after accounting for seasonal influences, according to the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board. Sales have declined in five of the past six months on a seasonally adjusted basis.

In July, fewer homeowners put their properties up for sale, but there were still nearly 24,000 homes up for grabs across the Toronto region. At the same time, home prices barely budged. The home price index for the region, which removes the most expensive transactions, was \$1,089,800 last month. That was 0.1 per cent higher than June on a seasonally adjusted basis and 5 per cent lower than July of last year.

Because home prices have been steady and because there is a high volume of homes for sale,



In July, fewer homeowners put their properties up for sale, but there were still nearly 24,000 homes up for grabs across the Toronto region. At the same time, home prices barely budged.

CARLOS OSORIO/REUTERS

buyers believe they have more time to shop for a property.

"It's not putting pressure on buyers to get in now," said Karen Yolevski, chief operating officer of Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd. "Buyers will jump in when they see prices start to rise," she said.

However, Ms. Yolevski said realtors are seeing an increase in showings, which she said is an early indicator of sales activity. Showings are picking up for people trying to sell single-family homes but not for high-rise condos.

Prospective buyers are even less motivated to purchase a con-

do given the amount of supply on the market. Last month, there were nearly 9,000 active condo listings, which is a record high. Owners are trying to sell their condos as a slew of new units are also being completed this year.

Over all, the real estate board predicted sales will pick up in the fall. Mortgages are becoming cheaper with every interest rate cut and the central bank is widely expected to cut its 4.5 per cent benchmark interest rate again.

"Expect sales to accelerate as buyers benefit from lower monthly mortgage payments," board president Jennifer Pearce said in a news release.

NVIDIA'S DEMAND TO FACE LIMITED IMPACT FROM POTENTIAL PRODUCTION DELAY, ANALYSTS SAY

Worries over a delay in the launch of Nvidia Corp.'s upcoming artificial-intelligence chips may be exaggerated, analysts said, as they do not expect the setback to have a big impact on the chip giant's revenue or demand.

According to media reports, Nvidia's Blackwell chips may face delays of three months or more owing to design flaws, potentially affecting customers such as Meta Platforms Inc., Alphabet Inc.'s Google and Microsoft Corp. Despite recent worries, "it remains clear that demand levels continue to rise, with all major hyperscalers continuing to grow their capex outlooks," Bernstein analyst Stacy Rasgon wrote in a note on Monday.

In the event of a delay, sales of Nvidia's older "Grace Hopper" chips should help to fill the gap, Mr. Rasgon added. "Nvidia's competitive window is so large right now that we don't think a three-month delay will cause significant share shifts."

Nvidia, which commands more than 80 per cent of the AI chip market, stands in a unique position as both the largest enabler as well as beneficiary of surging AI development.

Nvidia chief executive officer Jensen Huang had said in May its latest Blackwell series of AI chips was set to ship in the second quarter. Nvidia CFO Colette Kress had said in May demand for Blackwell chips could exceed supply "well into next year."

REUTERS

OPINION & ANALYSIS

The end of the generative AI bubble

With Big Tech tumbling, there is less confidence that the technology will provide the necessary returns on the huge investments made

KEAN BIRCH

OPINION

Director of the Institute for Technoscience & Society and Ontario Research Chair in Science Policy at York University

For the past couple of weeks, the share value of the S&P 500's bellwether tech stocks has been falling. These include Alphabet Inc., Apple Inc., Amazon.com Inc., Meta Platforms Inc., Microsoft Corp., Nvidia Corp., and Tesla Inc. As these seven corporations now represent a significant proportion of the U.S. stock market, any decline in value pushes down the overall public market, and this has been causing some panic.

On Monday that panic evolved into pandemonium. Global markets tumbled, but Big Tech tumbled more. At one point, the AI standard-bearer Nvidia was down more than 7 per cent and the Magnificent Seven lost more than US\$500-billion in market capitalization.

The question of why this is happening now is interesting: It looks like the generative AI bubble is finally bursting.

I wrote in April this year that generative AI technologies look like money pits with significant social costs attached: This prediction seems increasingly on point. Investors are less and less confident that generative AI technologies will provide the necessary returns on the huge investments made.

Several analyst and investor reports have come out recently making similar points. First, Da-



Visitors look at Tesla's robot Optimus at the World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai on July 5. Studies show generative AI is not delivering on its promises such as raising productivity. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Consequently, generative AI not only requires a significant investment in energy infrastructure, it's also going to have a significant knock-on effect increasing energy costs across the board.

vid Cahn at the venture capital firm Sequoia argued that generative AI needs to generate US\$600-billion in revenues to pay back current infrastructure spending – and we're nowhere near this. Then, Jim Covello, head of global equity research at Goldman Sachs, argued that, in light of future expected infrastructure investment, generative AI needs to find a "\$1-trillion problem" it will solve. It's still not clear what this could be. Finally, the hedge fund Elliott Management has stated that Nvidia is in an AI "bubble land" and that many AI technologies "are never going to actually work" or "will take up too much energy" – undermining the hype around generative AI.

All of this highlights the problem of collectively putting too much money into one technological bet when it doesn't offer a clear case for doing so.

Ross Sandler, an analyst at Barclays Bank, argued that the investment in generative AI is large enough for 12,000 new products, which sounds like an extraordinary number – and not in a good

way. Mr. Covello noted that "people generally substantially overestimate what the technology is capable of today," especially when it comes to reducing operational costs. He also pointed out that while the AI they use at Goldman Sachs is faster, it raises costs six-fold. And the International Energy Agency has calculated that an AI-driven search application requires ten times the electricity of regular search. Consequently, generative AI not only requires a significant investment in energy infrastructure, it's also going to have a significant knock-on effect increasing energy costs across the board. Eventually we're going to have to pay even more for these costs if firms want to generate revenues.

Other studies are showing that generative AI is not doing what its boosters have promised, namely raising productivity. Forbes, for example, has reported on research by the Upwork Research Institute showing that "77% of employees using AI say it has added to their workload and created challenges in achieving the

expected productivity gains."

A final question all of this raises is: Why do so many people buy into the generative AI hype? I think there are at least three reasons for this; one relates to investment logic and the others to corporate strategies.

First, all bubbles are driven in part by a self-fulfilling fear of missing out. Investors know that a bubble is a bubble, but they have to participate because they still make money. The past couple of years have been very good to investors in the stock market, especially those investing in the so-called "hyperscalers" whose infrastructure investments underpin generative AI – for example, Alphabet, Amazon, Microsoft, and Nvidia. But it now looks like these corporations and others investing billions in data centres would be better known as "hype-scalers": they've driven up expectations and investment but with little to show for it up to now.

Second, generative AI technologies are currently underpriced or free. As Mr. Cahn at Sequoia noted, going forward firms will need to start generating revenues from their technologies, which means charging for them. Customers are unlikely to pay for technologies with ambivalent functionality – to say the least – and investors are coming around to this perspective.

Last, generative AI technologies have also enabled some corporations to capture more revenues from their operations. Finance YouTuber Sasha Yanshin makes the point that if you look at Alphabet's most recent 10-Q report you can see that their paid clicks through Google Search have increased 5 per cent while impressions through Google Network have fallen 13 per cent. The reason for this is that AI-driven Search keeps users on Google's own platforms rather than sending them to their Network partners, enabling them to capture more advertising revenues. Here, generative AI looks like it's reinforcing market concentration.

Economists must convince the public that productivity isn't just a number

MARTY EICHENBAUM
MICHELLE ALEXOPOULOS
JEREMY KRONICK

OPINION

Marty Eichenbaum serves as Charles Moskos Professor at Northwestern University, while Michelle Alexopoulos is a member of the C.D. Howe Institute's Business Cycle Council and a professor of economics at the University of Toronto. Jeremy Kronick is associate vice-president at the C.D. Howe Institute and director of the Centre on Financial and Monetary Policy.

Since 1985, U.S. labour productivity has grown by roughly 100 per cent. In sharp contrast, labour productivity in Canada grew by only 40 per cent. Canadian workers are now only 70 per cent as productive as U.S. workers. And we're not just falling behind the U.S. – the growth rate of our productivity is well below that of the U.K., Germany and France.

Economists have long been aware of our productivity malaise, but we need a broader audience. Public support can help solve the problem, and this re-

quires showing Canadians how productivity gains improve their lives.

To see the benefits of higher productivity, consider the following example: Suppose a firm with 100 workers produces 100 computers a day. Then, because of technological innovation, the firm with the same 100 workers can produce 1,000 computers a day. Other things being equal, the firm will increase revenue by a factor of 10, even though its labour costs are unchanged.

To maximize its profits, the firm will try to ramp up output by hiring workers. Such an expansion typically increases workers' wages and decreases computer prices.

Even if the firm were unwilling to hike wages/hire more workers and/or lower prices, other firms would see the potential benefits, adopt the new technology and ramp up their output. Competition ensures that the benefits from technological innovations are passed on to consumers, workers and shareholders.

This scenario is not a hypothetical fairy tale. In 1981, a basic IBM home computer cost \$4,664 in today's dollars. Today, a Mac-

Book Air costs \$1,299. The cheaper MacBook Air makes that old IBM computer look like a paperweight in terms of its capabilities. The technology embodied in this new computer allows people to be far more productive today – software runs faster, has increased what we can do and lets us work from virtually anywhere.

Last year, Canadian labour productivity fell and is now at its lowest point since the last quarter of 2018, whereas U.S. labour productivity rose by more than 9 per cent since 2018.

Critically, history shows that productivity gains translate into real wage gains (after accounting for inflation) for ordinary Canadians. From 1994 to mid-2024, the growth rate of productivity and real wages in Canada increased by virtually the same amount – roughly 35 per cent. That is not a coincidence. As workers become more produc-

tive, firms compete for their services, generating upward growth in real wages.

While 35 per cent over the period may sound pretty good, a closer inspection highlights how much better we could be doing. Canadian workers are getting less productive and poorer than their U.S. counterparts. And the situation is getting worse. Last year, Canadian labour productivity fell and is now at its lowest point since the last quarter of 2018, whereas U.S. labour productivity rose by more than 9 per cent since 2018.

The fall in Canadian labour productivity coincided with falling median real weekly wages. In 2020, the nationwide median real weekly wage was \$1,103; at the end of 2023, it was \$1,078. Put bluntly, our dismal productivity performance means we are getting poorer, not only relative to our U.S. neighbours, but absolutely as well.

Why is Canada falling behind? We have access to the same technology that Americans have. Our workers are as educated and dedicated as our neighbours to the south.

So what are the main barriers to productivity growth in Cana-

da? There are many candidates: interprovincial trade barriers, too many layers of regulation, major project approval uncertainty, incentives that favour lending to mortgages over businesses, an inability to commercialize the discoveries at our world-class universities, barriers to competition and a mismatch between the skills that firms want and the skills that workers have.

We can debate how much each of these factors inhibits Canada's productivity growth. But you can't debate that when you add them all up, it's a lot. The lack of reform is costing Canadians where it hurts – their paycheques.

The key to a higher standard of living for Canadians is a higher productivity growth rate. Increased material prosperity also means more time and resources to pursue non-material goals, as well as a greater ability to help disadvantaged members of Canadian society. The more we produce, the more we can help each other. We do not want to fight for scraps of a small pie. We want to divide a larger pie – a goal we can achieve by solving our productivity malaise.

Rapley: Expectation that interest rates will be cut sharply is a self-defeating sentiment

FROM B1

Despite Monday's sell-off, the macro-data from the broader economy don't quite paint the picture of collapse that they're drawing, at least not yet.

High-frequency data, such as air travel and flight bookings, still indicate a U.S. economy that remains in pretty good shape. Although there's little question the economy has cooled down, it bears repeating that it's coming off a period of very hot growth. Over all, the picture is of a gradual softening, not an imminent collapse. Consumer spending is still up. The U.S., in short, is not Canada.

Ironically, therefore, the widespread expectation that interest rates will be cut sharply is a self-defeating sentiment. It has driven

bond yields down a lot, lowering borrowing costs – the expectation of cuts may actually take the pressure off central banks to get more aggressive with cuts. That is a good thing.

After tripling in value over the past 10 years, U.S. stocks are still priced as if the boom won't end. Expectations of future earnings presume an economy that will continue growing strongly, making current credit prices, if anything, cheap. Either stock prices must fall further or interest rates will have to go back up before this imbalance is corrected.

The return to the cheap-credit days of the past that many investors seem to now expect may never come. Contrary to expectations, treasury yields fall little during recessions. Meanwhile, expectations of what constitute

normal interest rates were shaped by the post-2008 era of ultra-easy money, to which central banks say they won't now return.

Real rates – the central bank's rate minus the rate of inflation – were negative during this period. Were that benchmark to be used again – a negative real rate – Canadian interest rates would now be at about 2 per cent. But that won't likely be where rates end up. Instead, consider that in the period before 2008, real rates averaged about 2.5 per cent, which is only a bit less than where real rates are now.

If central banks were to use those earlier benchmarks, they might cut rates only another 0.25 per cent or so. In truth, given the animated debate under way in central banks about what the 'neutral' rate of interest is, they'll

probably land somewhere in between those two levels – lower than now, but not as low as investors currently expect them to go.

The fundamentals therefore suggest that if the Fed were to panic-cut rates, it would only be kicking the can down the line. It could ultimately store up an even bigger panic for the future. For all the talk of the central banks waiting too long to cut rates, the truth is the biggest mistake they made, one that they now acknowledge, was keeping interest rates too low for too long and allowing asset bubbles to inflate.

Now they're deflating. Provided they continue doing so in what still amounts to an orderly fashion, and provided the macroeconomic indicators point to a slowing but not contracting economy, central banks would be

justified in their caution as they cut rates.

Investors, including Canadian real estate investors, should therefore probably brace for more of this. Before we see deep and sustained cuts in interest rates, we'll probably have to see further falls in real prices.

But the markets are not the economy, and investors' pain is only their own. With the markets running less hot, the economy will benefit since capital, including houses, will become more affordable.

John Rapley is an author and academic who divides his time among London, Johannesburg and Ottawa. His books include *Why Empires Fall* (Yale University Press, 2023) and *Twilight of the Money Gods* (Simon and Schuster, 2017).

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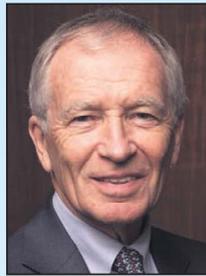
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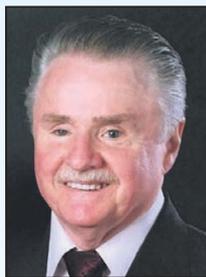
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Hines: Canadian co-head says firm could get involved in unfinished projects

■ FROM B1

That has pushed many prospective buyers out of the real estate market and kept them in rentals.

At the same time, the federal government has been admitting record numbers of new immigrants, temporary workers and foreign students, which has increased the overall demand for housing. As a result, rental rates have jumped and are now averaging more than \$2,000 a month — an amount that many cannot afford.

“The biggest story going on in Canada today is that we have a massive undersupply of housing,” Avi Tesciuba, Hines co-head of Canada, said in a recent interview. “Our primary focus is to help solve that. There’s massive demand for new housing.”

Privately owned Hines has been sitting on this fund for about two years. It has \$650-million in equity, and the ability to borrow more to boost its buying power. With debt, Mr. Tesciuba said Hines has about \$2-billion to spend on acquisitions. His firm is looking mostly at land in major cities such as Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal, where the company can develop apartment rental units.

Hines is not looking to develop single-family homes or townhomes, but prefers to develop large rental-only towers although it would consider projects as small as four to six storeys. Even though Hines can spend \$2-billion, it doesn’t have a minimum or maximum investment in mind. “It’s a matter of whether it’s worth our time,” Mr. Tesciuba said.

Hines would not make one large investment and put all their “eggs in one basket,” he said, and its purchases could also include office buildings developments or combined office and residential projects. “We can tackle essentially any large project,” he said.

Hines has nearly seven decades of experience developing commercial real estate. It started with office buildings in the late 1950s in Houston and now has US\$93.2-billion in real estate assets under management around the world. It develops and manages all types of commercial properties from of-



rice towers to housing, including condo towers, student housing and rental-only apartments.

This year may offer opportunities for Hines in Canada with a rash of developers facing problems with their residential projects. The high borrowing costs along with significant cost overruns and delays has made it difficult for developers. As a result, there has been a spate of distressed residential projects that are up for sale.

Asked whether this was a good time to be a buyer, Hines Canadian co-head Syl Apps said: “The way we think about it is, we hope that we can be a solution provider.”

Mr. Apps said Hines has a sizable amount of “dry powder” to make purchases in Canada, and that the firm’s expertise could help borrowers, lenders or receivers “achieve the best outcome.”

One of the largest troubled projects in Canada is The One, a luxury condo building in downtown

The embrace of rental housing is occurring as Ottawa has tried to spur the development of purpose-built rentals, including by eliminating the 5-per-cent federal GST on new rental construction and providing cheaper financing through Canada’s housing agency.

SPENCER COLBY/
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Toronto that was originally conceived to be 85 storeys high. The One’s court-appointed receiver is seeking \$1.2-billion for the unfinished skyscraper and the first round of bids was due last week. It is unknown whether any bids were submitted.

Mr. Apps and Mr. Tesciuba both declined to comment when asked if Hines was interested in The One.

But Mr. Apps said that Hines could get involved in distressed unfinished projects. “As a general concept, that’s the type of opportunity where I think Hines can bring significant value to the counterpart,” he said, adding that the company can bring capital as well as “deep, global development expertise that allows us to maximize value.”

Hines has been operating in Canada over the past two decades and has US\$3.7-billion in assets under management here. That includes CIBC Square, which when completed will have two 49-

storey office towers in downtown Toronto. (Hines is developing the office complex with Ivanhoé Cambridge, the real estate arm of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec.)

Hines has developed condos in Canada as well as rental-only units, also known as purpose-built rentals. It has developed or is completing seven of these buildings amounting to 2,600 units in Toronto and Calgary.

The embrace of rental housing is occurring as the federal government has tried to spur the development of purpose-built rentals. Ottawa has eliminated the 5-per-cent federal goods and services tax on new rental construction and is providing cheaper financing through Canada’s housing agency.

Hines has not yet tapped that source of financing but Mr. Tesciuba said it is critical for developers given the spike in construction costs and municipal development charges.

Turkish President accuses social-media companies of ‘digital fascism’

ANKARA, TURKEY

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan accused social-media platforms of “digital fascism” on Monday for allegedly censoring photographs of Palestinian “martyrs.”

The Turkish leader’s comments came as Turkish officials were engaged in discussions with representatives of the social-media platform Instagram, to reinstate access to millions of its users in Turkey.

The Information and Communication Technologies Authority barred access to Instagram on Friday without providing a reason. Government officials said the ban was imposed because Instagram failed to abide by Turkish regulations.

Several media reports said, however, that the action was in response to Instagram removing posts by Turkish users that expressed condolences over the killing of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh. It was the latest instance of a clampdown on websites in the country which has a track record of censoring social media and other online platforms.

“They cannot even tolerate photographs of Palestinian martyrs and immediately ban them,” Mr. Erdogan said at a human-rights event. “We are confronted with a digital fascism that is disguised as freedom.”

Unlike its Western allies, Turkey does not consider Hamas a terror organization. A strong critic of Israel’s military actions in Gaza, Mr. Erdogan has described the group as a liberation movement. Mr. Erdogan went on to state that social-media websites were allegedly allowing all kinds of propaganda by groups considered terrorists in Turkey.

“We have tried to establish a line of dialogue through our relevant institutions. However, we have not yet been able to achieve the desired co-operation,” Mr. Erdogan said.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Minister, Abdulkadir Uraloglu, said Turkish authorities had met with representatives of the Meta-owned company last week and held a fresh round of talks on Monday without reaching a resolution.

“We didn’t get the exact result we wanted,” Mr. Uraloglu said. Instagram has more than 57 million users in Turkey, a country of 85 million people, according to We Are Social Media, a digital marketing news company based in New York.

The Electronic Commerce Operators’ Association estimates that Instagram and other social-media platforms per day generate about 930 million Turkish lira (\$38.4-million) worth of e-commerce.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Trader Gregory Rowe works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Monday. RICHARD DREW/AP

Fed: Economist expects a half-point rate cut from the U.S. central bank in September

■ FROM B1

Jobless claims have moved higher. Manufacturing activity is showing evidence of a cool-down.

And with the risks of a pullback growing, Mr. Feroli at J.P. Morgan suggested that the Fed will want to stop tapping the brakes on the economy, which could mean that it will want to drop interest rates from their high current level relatively quickly. He expects a half-point

reduction in September.

Given the latest signs of softening in the economy, it seems like it may look in hindsight like the Fed waited too long to begin reducing rates.

Although officials discussed cutting borrowing costs at their meeting last week, they held off, choosing to wait for some final confirming evidence that inflation is fully under control, hopeful that the economy was strong enough for them to take their

time.

In the two days immediately after they made that decision, reports showed a pop in jobless claims and a jump in the unemployment rate.

“There are no mulligans in monetary policy, unfortunately, but we’ll probably look back and say — yes, they waited too long,” Mr. Feroli said. “In real time, it didn’t seem obvious.”

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Google: Another case over company’s advertising tech to go to trial next month

■ FROM B1

“A forced divestiture of the search business would sever Alphabet from its largest source of revenue. But even losing its capacity to strike exclusive default agreements could be detrimental for Google,” said Emarketer senior analyst Evelyn Mitchell-Wolf, who noted a drawn out legal

process will delay any immediate effects for consumers.

In the past four years, federal antitrust regulators have also sued Meta Platforms Inc., Amazon.com Inc. and Apple Inc., claiming the companies have illegally maintained monopolies. Another case against Google over its advertising technology is scheduled to go to trial in Sep-

In the past four years, federal antitrust regulators have also sued Meta Platforms Inc., Amazon.com Inc. and Apple Inc.

tember.

Speaking before the ruling, William Kovacic, a professor at George Washington University Law School, said a DOJ victory is likely to boost the morale of antitrust enforcers in other cases.

“It’s very good for their larger campaign to apply the law effectively in this sector,” he said.

When it was filed in 2020, the

Google search case was the first time in a generation that the U.S. government accused a major corporation of an illegal monopoly. Microsoft Corp. settled with the Justice Department in 2004 over claims that it forced its Internet Explorer web browser on Windows users.

REUTERS

South Korea sees push for longer workweeks

Some executives are being told to work six days a week after larger shift toward shorter hours in 2018

JIN YU YOUNG SEOUL

“Back in the day,” said Lim Hyung-kyu, a retired Samsung Electronics executive now in his 70s, “my weeks were Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Friday, Friday.”

Mr. Lim joined Samsung, South Korea’s largest company, in 1976 and rose through the ranks to chief technology officer. For much of his 30-plus years at Samsung, working on the weekends was normal – and legal under the nation’s labour laws. “I didn’t mind,” Mr. Lim said. “It was fun for me.”

Things are different now. South Korean labour laws cap working hours to 52 a week: 40 standard hours with up to 12 for overtime. Weekends are generally considered off limits, and younger employees are mindful of their work-life balance in a way their parents or grandparents weren’t.

But over the past few months, some influential South Korean companies have told executives to work longer hours, in some cases telling them to come to the office six days a week. Some people in South Korean business are predicting that lower-ranked employees and managers at smaller companies will feel pressure to follow suit.

“It’s a signal that in South Korea, working six days a week is still acceptable,” said Kim Seol, a representative of the Youth Community Union, a labour group that represents workers between the ages of 15 and 39.

The pressure on workers, especially young workers, can be intense in South Korea, which has a shrinking, aging population with one of the world’s lowest fertility rates. Fears about job security and the rising costs of housing, child care and education have discouraged working-age Koreans from having children, contributing to a demographic crisis that looms over the economy.

In South Korea, the five-day workweek is only a generation old, introduced by labour laws in 2004, starting with the public sector and larger companies before spreading to smaller firms. A 52-hour legal limit on the workweek is also relatively new: It was introduced in 2018, a reduction from 68 hours per week.

For much of South Korea’s postwar history, a time of rapid growth and reconstruction, workers were expected to be in the office Monday through Saturday. “Back then, it was hard for people to get by,” said Mr. Lim, the retired Samsung executive. “Helping the company grow meant helping the country and, by extension, yourself.”

Samsung, like South Korea’s other multinational giants, has tracked the country’s burst of development from poverty and war to an advanced, high-tech economy. It was founded in the late 1930s as a shop selling vegetables and dried fish, started making appliances and other electronics in the late 1960s, and is now a world leader in semi-conductors,



South Korean labour laws cap working hours to 52 a week: 40 standard hours with up to 12 for overtime. Weekends are generally considered off limits, and younger employees are mindful of their work-life balance in a way their parents or grandparents weren’t. PHOTOS BY WOOHAE CHO/NYT



Despite only the executive tier being asked to work more, other employees may feel pressure to do the same. ‘Business culture in South Korea is a pyramid,’ says Kim Seol, a representative of the Youth Community Union.

smartphones and other technologies with more than 200,000 employees.

The companies now calling for executives to work longer hours have described the measures as a response to a downturn in business, citing a temporary crisis or emergency. Growth in South Korea has been patchy, with weak consumer spending putting a dent in corporate earnings. The economy unexpectedly shrank last quarter.

At HD Hyundai Oilbank, the refinery and gas station unit of an industrial conglomerate, about 40 executives started coming to the office on weekends in recent weeks to “respond to the crisis caused by sluggish business conditions,” according to a company representative. HD Hyundai Oilbank’s sales and profit dropped sharply last year because of falling oil prices.

In July, SK On, the battery and electric-vehicle unit of a technol-

ogy group, announced that it would go into “emergency mode,” freezing executives’ salaries and making them start their workdays earlier.

“Executives and leaders will lead by example and take on the large responsibility of navigating through a crisis,” Lee Seok-hee, SK On’s chief executive officer, said at a staff meeting, according to a company statement. The company, which has lost money in recent quarters, slowed production and warned of “unfavourable market conditions” in a financial report in April.

A spokesperson from Samsung said that while it was not official company policy, “executives may voluntarily choose to work on weekends according to their professional needs.” The conglomerate has been in the middle of a dispute with its largest union, whose members last week said they would go back to work after a strike over

pay and working conditions.

Labour groups claim the “crisis” and “emergency” measures are mostly for show. “There is a cultural mindset here that the longer someone works, the better the outcome,” said Lee Sang Yoon, a policy deputy director at the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, one of the largest labour groups in the nation. “This is outdated.”

Although the calls for weekend work apply only to the executive tier of these companies, other employees may feel pressure to do the same.

“Business culture in South Korea is a pyramid,” Mr. Kim said, with large companies at the top setting the tone for the country’s business culture.

What’s written in labour laws does not always reflect the actual experience of employees. Workers in South Korea log some of the highest hours among advanced economies, putting in

about 100 hours more per year than the average American worker, according to 2022 data compiled by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Eun Sung, a consultant in her 20s who lives in Seoul, said she often worked six days a week when on a project.

“We consider getting off at 2 or 3 a.m. decent,” she said. She sees friends only once every few months, and her health has been affected by a lack of sleep, she added. While she enjoys consulting, she said she would consider moving to a country where she could have a better work-life balance.

Some companies have ways to get employees to put in longer hours, according to Ryu Jae Kang, head of a policy unit at the Federation of Korean Trade Unions. They may pay fixed salaries that already incorporate overtime hours, and not all hours for all types of work may be tracked.

The legal reduction of working hours over the years has been a sign of South Korea’s development and a shift among people to focus more on their personal lives, said Joon Han, a sociology professor at Yonsei University.

Last year, President Yoon Suk Yeol, who is considered pro-business, proposed raising the cap on the workweek to 69 hours. It faced a backlash from the public and opposition political parties, and the president withdrew the plan.

Some are pushing to reduce working hours. A four-day workweek was part of the platforms of some politicians running in the nation’s April parliamentary elections. In June, the government launched a work-life balance committee charged with exploring more flexible working practices.

“Times are changing,” Prof. Han said. “Young people don’t want to be slaves to their companies anymore.”

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

L’Oreal to buy 10% stake in Swiss skin care firm Galderma

DAVE GRAHAM ZURICH
DOMINIQUE PATTON PARIS

L’Oreal will acquire a 10-per-cent stake in Swiss skin care firm Galderma from a group of major shareholders, the two companies said on Monday, as the French firm seeks a cut of the profits from the booming injectable cosmetics market.

Galderma, originally set up as a joint venture between Nestlé and L’Oreal before the latter sold its 50-per-cent stake in 2014, listed an initial tranche of its stock in late March.

L’Oreal is buying the stake at an undisclosed premium from Sunshine SwissCo AG – a consortium led by Swedish private equity firm EQT – Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Auba Investment Pte. Ltd. in a deal due to be completed in the coming days.

Shares in Galderma, which had a market capitalization of almost 16-billion Swiss francs (\$25.9-billion) at Friday’s market

close according to LSEG data, jumped more than 7 per cent after the news before trimming gains. L’Oreal shares were largely flat.

The stake, worth 1.6-billion Swiss francs based on Galderma’s market cap, is small for the French giant, which said it will fund the purchase via available cash and credit lines.

It marks a shift in its strategy, giving L’Oreal a stake in injectable products that reduce wrinkles such as fillers and neuromodulators, which include botox, for the first time.

“It allows us to explore partnering in the fast-growing esthetics market, a key adjacency to our own pure beauty play,” L’Oreal chief executive officer Nicolas Hieronimus said in a statement.

About half of Galderma’s revenue comes from injectables. The market was worth €9.3-billion last year, Mr. Hieronimus told analysts on a call.

“The penetration rate of these procedures already stands at

The stake marks a shift in its strategy, giving L’Oreal a stake in injectable products that reduce wrinkles such as fillers and neuromodulators, which include botox, for the first time.

mid-single digits and looking at the number of people who consider using these procedures, the penetration rate could double in the next decade,” he said.

The two companies also signed a memorandum of understanding to work on research and development collaboration. The deal will ultimately enable the pair to jointly develop new products to expand their respective portfolios, Galderma said.

“The stake is positioned as a strategic interest, to facilitate cooperation on product development, but we assume that this is also a way to get closer to Galderma with a view of higher ownership/control over time,” analysts at Jefferies said.

Galderma CEO Flemming Orskov said he would not speculate on whether L’Oreal’s stake could increase, but noted the French firm had undertaken a “prolonged” standstill agreement with the shareholders, and tender obligations, without giving details.

“We are competitors,” he told an analyst call.

“And we will continue to be strong competitors.”

L’Oreal will not take a seat on Galderma’s board to prevent any relationship on similar business activity, executives said.

The two firms also compete in skin care with Galderma’s Ceta-phil brand and L’Oreal’s CeraVe.

L’Oreal’s dermatological beauty division, which also includes the La Roche-Posay brand, has grown by high-double digits in recent years, boosted by social media and consumer interest in science since the COVID pandemic.

But growth in the unit slowed in the second quarter to 10.5 per cent, missing estimates, partly owing to increasing competition.

The global esthetics market is predicted to grow to US\$25.9-billion by 2028 from US\$15.4-billion last year, according to Markets-andMarkets.

REUTERS

Elon Musk revives lawsuit against OpenAI and two of its founders

Executive who helped create the company claims plan to carefully develop AI for the benefit of humanity was abandoned after Microsoft deal

CADE METZ SAN FRANCISCO

Elon Musk has revived a lawsuit against OpenAI, the maker of the artificial-intelligence chatbot ChatGPT, refuelling a six-year-old feud that began with a power struggle at the San Francisco startup.

Like the original suit, the new complaint, filed Monday in federal court in Northern California, claims that OpenAI and two of its founders, Sam Altman and Greg Brockman, breached the company's founding contract by putting commercial interests ahead of the public good.

Mr. Musk withdrew his original suit seven weeks ago, without an explanation, one day before a judge was set to rule on whether it should be dismissed.

After joining with Mr. Musk to create OpenAI in 2015 and pledging to carefully develop AI for the benefit of humanity, the suit claims, Mr. Altman and Mr. Brockman abandoned this mission by entering a multi-billion-dollar partnership with Microsoft Corp.

Mr. Musk was "betrayed by Mr. Altman and his accomplices," the suit said. "The perfidy and deceit is of Shakespearean proportions."

In response to Mr. Musk's new suit, OpenAI pointed to a company blog post about his original suit that said his claims were meritless and reproduced e-mails indicating that Mr. Musk had tried to transform OpenAI into a commercial operation before leaving the organization in 2018.

"Elon's prior e-mails continue to speak for themselves," said Lindsey Held, a spokesperson for OpenAI.

In the blog post, Mr. Altman and others at the company said that the company aimed to serve the public good by building artificial general intelligence, or AGI, a machine that can do anything the human brain can do.

"The mission of OpenAI is to ensure AGI benefits all of humanity, which means both building safe and beneficial AGI and helping create broadly distributed benefits," they said.

When Mr. Musk founded OpenAI with Mr. Altman, Mr. Brockman and several young AI researchers, he envisioned the research lab as a necessary counterweight to AI work being done by Google. He believed that Google and its co-founder Larry Page were not sufficiently concerned with AI's dangers.

Echoing the warnings of some others in the field, Mr. Musk worried that AI could one day destroy humanity. Mr. Altman and other OpenAI founders expressed similar concerns at the time. They created OpenAI as a non-profit and vowed to freely share its



When Elon Musk founded OpenAI with other AI researchers, he envisioned the research lab as a necessary counterweight to AI work being done by Google. JULIA NIKHINSON/AP

technology with the public. They argued that AI would be too powerful and too dangerous to be controlled by a single entity like Google.

Mr. Musk parted ways with OpenAI in 2018 after a power struggle, withdrawing his financial support. Forced to find other sources of funding, Mr. Altman transformed OpenAI into a for-profit company and eventually raised US\$13-billion from Microsoft.

In 2022, OpenAI released ChatGPT, a chatbot that can generate text and answer questions in humanlike prose. This spurred an industry-wide race toward AI, spanning tech giants such as Google and Microsoft as well as a new wave of startups. Mr. Musk founded his own AI company, xAI, last year while still warning against the dangers of the technology.

(The New York Times has sued OpenAI and Microsoft, claiming copyright infringement of news content related to AI systems. The two companies have denied the suit's claims.)

In November, OpenAI's board of directors unexpectedly fired Mr. Altman, saying he could no longer be trusted with the company's mission to build AI for the good of humanity. He was reinstated five days later.

About two months after that, Mr. Musk sued OpenAI in a state court in San Francisco. The new suit, filed in federal court, claims that Mr. Altman and Mr. Brockman knowingly misled him when they teamed up with him to create OpenAI.

"Elon Musk's case against Sam Altman and OpenAI is a textbook tale of altruism over greed," the suit said. "Altman, in concert with other defendants, intentionally courted and deceived Musk, preying on

Musk's humanitarian concern about the existential dangers posed by AI."

The suit claims that Mr. Altman and Mr. Brockman have backtracked on their promise to freely share, or open-source, their company's technologies and opted instead to provide Microsoft with an exclusive licence to the technologies.

Mr. Musk filed the new suit in federal court in part because it argues that OpenAI violated federal racketeering laws by conspiring to defraud Mr. Musk, his lawyer, Marc Tobe-roff, said in an interview.

"The previous suit lacked teeth - and I don't believe in the tooth fairy," he said. "This is a much more forceful lawsuit."

The suit argues that OpenAI's contract with Microsoft specifies that the tech giant would no longer have a right to OpenAI's technology once the lab had achieved AGI. It asks the court to decide whether OpenAI's latest systems have achieved AGI and determine whether the company's contract with Microsoft should be voided.

Most experts say that OpenAI's current technology is not AGI and that scientists do not yet know how to build such a system.

In late May, OpenAI announced that it had started working on a new AI model that would succeed the GPT-4 technology that drives ChatGPT. The company said it expected the new model to bring "the next level of capabilities."

OpenAI is valued at more than US\$80-billion, according to its latest funding round. Mr. Musk's company, xAI, is valued at US\$24-billion.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

SPIRIT AEROSYSTEMS, BOEING EXECUTIVES TO TESTIFY AT NTSB HEARING ON MAX 9 EMERGENCY

WASHINGTON The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board said a number of Boeing Co. and Spirit AeroSystems Holdings Inc. executives will testify at a two-day hearing starting Tuesday on the mid-air blowout of an Alaska Airlines 737 Max 9 door plug in January.

Boeing's senior vice-president for quality, Elizabeth Lund, and Doug Ackerman, vice-president of supplier quality for Boeing, are among those that will testify, the NTSB said.

Terry George, senior vice-president and general manager for Boeing Program at Spirit AeroSystems, and Scott Grabon, a senior director for 737 quality at Spirit, which makes the fuselage for the Max, will also appear, it added.

Last month Boeing agreed to buy back Spirit AeroSystems, whose core plants it spun off in 2005, for US\$4.7-billion in stock, and Airbus moved to take on the supplier's loss-making Europe-focused activities.

Several Federal Aviation Administration officials will also testify at the hearing scheduled to last 20 hours over two days on the blowout of the Alaska Boeing 737 Max 9 door plug with four missing bolts.

The hearing will review issues including 737 manufacturing and inspections, safety management and quality management systems, FAA oversight, and issues surrounding the opening and closing of the door plug.

Boeing has said no paperwork exists to document the removal of the bolts.

Boeing and the FAA did not immediately comment. A Spirit spokesperson said the company "is fully committed to co-operating with the NTSB in its investigation into this incident."

The FAA in January barred Boeing from expanding 737 production. In June, FAA administrator Mike Whitaker said the agency was "too hands off" in oversight of Boeing before January.

Also in June, the NTSB said Boeing violated investigation rules by providing non-public information to media and speculating about possible causes.

The safety board said remarks to media made by Ms. Lund were "either inaccurate or unknown to the NTSB," while others had not been previously disclosed.

The NTSB said Boeing would no longer see information produced during its probe and, unlike other parties, will now not be allowed to ask questions of other participants during the hearing.

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LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF VBI VACCINES INC., VARIATION BIOTECHNOLOGIES INC., VBI VACCINES (DELAWARE) INC., VARIATION BIOTECHNOLOGIES (US), INC., SCIVAC LTD., SCIVAC HONG KONG LIMITED AND VBI VACCINES B.V.

Notice is hereby given that on July 30, 2024, pursuant to a motion filed by VBI Vaccines Inc. ("VBI"), Variation Biotechnologies Inc. ("VBI Cda"), VBI Vaccines (Delaware) Inc. ("VBI DE"), Variation Biotechnologies (US), Inc. ("VBI US"), SciVac Ltd. ("SciVac"), SciVac Hong Kong Limited ("SciVac HK") and VBI Vaccines B.V. ("VBI BV") (collectively, the "Applicants" or "VBI Group"), the Ontario Superior Court of Justice ("Court"), sitting as the designated tribunal pursuant to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act ("CCAA"), issued an order (the "Initial Order") declaring that the Applicants are debtor companies pursuant to the CCAA, appointing Ernst & Young Inc., a licensed insolvency trustee, as monitor ("Monitor") and granting certain relief measures to the Applicants.

The Monitor established a website at www.ey.com/ca/vbi on which a copy of the Initial Order and other information pertaining to the proceedings under the CCAA can be accessed.

The Court number assigned for these proceedings is CV-24-00724693-00CL.

No claims process has been approved by the Court, and therefore creditors are not required to file a proof of claim as of the present date.

Ernst & Young Inc., in its capacity as the Monitor in the matter of the proposed compromise and arrangement of VBI Group
900 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Suite 2300
Montréal (Québec) H3A 0A8

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PALANTIR RAISES ANNUAL REVENUE FORECAST ON AI STRENGTH; SHARES SURGE

Palantir Technologies Inc. raised its annual revenue forecast for the second time this year on Monday, the latest sign that the generative AI boom is driving demand for its software services.

Its shares were up more than 15 per cent in extended trading.

The data analytics company also forecast third-quarter sales above estimates and reported its largest ever quarterly profit, in the April-to-June period, chief executive officer Alex Karp said in a letter to shareholders.

Its AI platform, used to test, debug code and evaluate AI-related scenarios, has enabled Palantir to tap into the surging demand for services that help companies develop generative AI technology.

The company co-founded by billionaire Peter Thiel now expects annual revenue between US\$2.74-billion and US\$2.75-billion, compared with US\$2.68-billion to US\$2.69-billion expected earlier. The forecast is above the estimate of US\$2.70-billion, according to LSEG data.

It also raised its annual revenue expectation from U.S.-based companies by US\$11-million, to US\$672-million.

Palantir's shares, which have risen more than 39 per cent in 2024, slipped nearly 9 per cent last week after earnings reports from Big Tech firms such as Microsoft signalled that payoffs from huge AI bets could take longer to materialize than investors had initially hoped.

The company forecast third-quarter revenue between US\$697-million and US\$701-million, compared with analysts' average estimate of US\$679.1-million, according to LSEG data.

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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
Loblaw Companies Ltd.	Common	Sept. 15, 2024	Oct. 1, 2024	\$0.513
Loblaw Companies Ltd.	2nd Pref. Shares Series B	Sept. 15, 2024	Sept. 30, 2024	\$0.33125
Lundin Mining Corporation	Common	Aug. 30, 2024	Sept. 11, 2024	\$0.09
Pulse Seismic Inc.	Common	Aug. 14, 2024	Aug. 21, 2024	\$0.015
Pulse Seismic Inc.	Common	Aug. 14, 2024	Aug. 21, 2024	\$0.05 (Special)

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GLOBE INVESTOR

Will they or won't they?

When it comes to discussing estate planning with aging parents, approach it with their interests in mind, experts say

SAIRA PEESKER

When Mary Ma's mother died in 2021, she didn't have a will – which meant her family didn't know exactly how she wanted her end-of-life care to proceed, and they had to go through hoops to close her accounts and move her money.

"Even with her super-simple financial situation, there were quite a lot of tasks," says Ms. Ma, a product designer who now works for Willful, an online will company. "I stepped into that role without a legal paper."

"That took a toll on my mental health, and I think prevented me from grieving."

Ms. Ma says she knew her mother had brain cancer for about two years before she died, but it never seemed to be the right time to talk about her end-of-life care and estate. Her mother's illness meant there was always a lot to do in the short term – things like getting to appointments and coordinating caregiving and meals – so the talk took a back seat.

"They kept pushing it off when I brought up the conversation with dad and my mom," recalls Ms. Ma, who lives in Ottawa. "The response was like, 'Yeah, we should do it, but later.' I guess later never came."

Ms. Ma says she avoided pushing harder because it made her mother's diagnosis feel more real, something she regrets, and her husband was nervous to bring up the issue in case it seemed like he was angling for an inheritance.

Experts who work with families on their



ISTOCK

estate planning say these feelings are typical when talking to parents about their wills and estates – but there are ways to normalize the discussion and make it less awkward.

"Most kids have their parents' best interests at heart," says Robin Taub, a Toronto-based chartered professional accountant and author of *The Wisest Investment*, a book about teaching financial literacy to the next generation. "No one wants to sit down with their parents and say, 'How much money are you going to leave me?' I would never suggest starting a conversation like that."

Instead, she recommends opening the conversation by asking if the parents have done any estate planning – without "pushing or prying" – and seeing how they react. "You can come from the angle of, 'We want to make sure you have a lot of money to live

comfortably in your retirement,'" she says, noting it's wise to keep the focus on their wishes and how they'd like to see their money used. "It's not your money, it's their money, and they're entitled to decide what to do with it."

Some of the topics worth discussing include life insurance, critical illness insurance, and who will be the main caregiver for the parents as they age, she says, adding the conversation is worthwhile whether or not the parents have wealth to hand down.

"If the parents don't have money and you're the one who's going to support them, you need to have open information," she says. "If things are secretive, there can be so much poor planning."

Tom Deans, author of several books on intergenerational wealth transfer, says approaching estate planning "like a do-it-yourself project" often leads to some fam-

ily members feeling left out or shocked by what they find out after someone has died. He adds that having these conversations early and often can save the family dynamic, in addition to saving significant amounts of money.

"One of the great non-financial gifts we can give our family is these conversations," he says. "The happy inheritor is someone who is inheriting wealth and not surprises and secrets."

For those wondering how to get the conversation started, Mr. Deans recommends leading by example. "The rising generation should go get their will and power of attorney drafted and share a copy with their parents. Parents are often like, 'We should probably be doing this too,'" says Mr. Deans, who is based in the Hockley Valley, about 80 kilometres north of Toronto.

He recommends families use a trusted adviser or mediator to help lead these discussions. Having someone neutral present often leads people to "approach those family conversations with more maturity" and "check their emotions," rather than reverting to old patterns of communication, Mr. Deans says.

"A first family meeting could be a one-agenda-item meeting: selection of executor," he suggests, noting people often leave a first meeting of this kind feeling relieved that things are under way and wondering what to do next.

"Maybe that next meeting is talking about who's going to provide late-in-life care for mom and dad."

The alternative to these conversations can be inheritors hashing out the details in court, which can eat up huge sums of the estate, he says, noting it can cost \$500,000 to get through the litigation to get to a one-day trial.

"If you think divorce is expensive, it's just a dress rehearsal for the big show," he says.

How investment funds are playing India, the new emerging-markets star

SHIRLEY WON

India has arisen to become an emerging-markets darling, but the country may not be on the radar of many Canadian retail investors.

Despite the richly valued market, fund managers are bullish longer term and are encouraged by the Indian coalition government's recent budget that balances fiscal restraint with populist policies.

India's NSE Nifty 50 and S&P BSE Sensex indexes hit record highs this month but have retreated amid profit-taking. The indexes have gained about 26 and 22 per cent, respectively, over the past year.

"India is still our favourite emerging market at the moment," says Matthew Strauss, portfolio manager and lead for global equities at Toronto-based CI Global Asset Management.

"The valuations have run up, so we're a bit cautious of what the returns will look like over six to 12 months," says Mr. Strauss, who oversees CI Emerging Markets Fund. "We're hoping for a pull-back ... to add to some of our names."

India's financial markets have soared since Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party took power in 2014 and began instituting bold, and sometimes controversial, economic policies. He embarked on an infrastructure boom with money pouring into rail lines and highways, digitization to improve internet access, and financialization to move the country away from a cash economy to more people holding bank accounts.

India, the world's fifth-largest economy, has also been attracting multinationals, including Apple

Inc., that embrace a "China-plus-one" strategy to reduce supply-chain risk.

But Mr. Modi's failure to win a majority in the June 4 election raised concerns he would need to make concessions to his coalition partners, which could impede economic growth.

However, Mr. Strauss is reassured by the government's continued focus on fiscal discipline in its first post-election budget.

"The government's commitment to strong capital expenditure growth while bringing down the deficit over time bodes well for a structurally sound fiscal framework," he says.

The Indian government's recent increases to capital-gains taxes from equities investments was "a negative surprise, but the reduction in gold import duties, and incremental support for job creation and upskilling, are positive developments," he adds.

However, the Indian market, which now makes up about 19 per cent of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, has become pricey and trades at more than 20 times forward earnings, he says.

"We were overweight India [in the fund] but, given our concerns about valuations, we took some profit and are now slightly underweight at around 18 per cent," Mr. Strauss says.

He still finds India's market attractive and expects its economy to grow in the 5-per-cent to 7-per-cent range, depending on whether it's in an up or down cycle. "It is already outgrowing China," he says.

Mr. Strauss favours the financial sector, noting that banks are a "great way to gain exposure to a fast-growing economy." His fund owns ICICI Bank Ltd. and HDFC Bank Ltd.

"We continue to favour con-

sumer discretionary over staples and companies that benefit from large capital projects," he adds.

He likes Titan Co. Ltd., a jewellery retailer with a strong brand that will benefit from lower import duties on gold, and engineering and construction firm Larsen & Toubro Ltd.

His fund also holds REC Ltd., a lender to the energy industry to play India's renewable energy push; Reliance Industries Ltd., a conglomerate involved in industries ranging from energy to retail sectors; and information technology company Infosys Ltd.

The country is heading into a multiyear upcycle with healthy corporate cash flows, and manufacturing is a clear theme, [Ms. Chi] says.

Regina Chi, portfolio manager with Toronto-based AGF Investments Inc., is also concerned about the Indian market's high valuations but remains bullish for the longer term.

"It's the world's fastest-growing economy with very strong demographics [thanks to its young population] and geopolitical tailwinds," says Ms. Chi, who runs AGF Emerging Markets Fund.

"India is seeing very robust momentum with 8.2 per cent real [gross domestic product] growth [in fiscal 2024]," she adds. "It will also be a beneficiary from global manufacturing shifting away from China."

The country is heading into a multiyear upcycle with healthy corporate cash flows, and manufacturing is a clear theme, she says.

Mr. Modi's "Make in India" campaign prioritizes domestic manufacturing over imported products and services so that more orders are going to domestic companies, she adds.

Ms. Chi is also heartened by the continued deficit reduction in the budget and other proposals.

"The government pegged the fiscal deficit at 4.9 per cent of gross domestic product – a five-year low," she says. "It will also continue its capital-expenditure momentum and focus on job creation."

AGF Emerging Markets Fund is slightly underweight in India with an 18-per-cent exposure to its stocks. She favours industrial names, such as Larsen & Toubro and farm machinery maker Escorts Kubota Ltd. The fund is also overweight in consumer staples stocks. They include PepsiCo Inc.'s Indian bottler, Varun Beverages Ltd., which has gained market share in regions where Coca-Cola Co. has been strong.

Ms. Chi likes telecommunication names such as Bharti Airtel Ltd., and also owns Infosys, which recently reported a strong first quarter amid "a nice recovery in its growth."

Tyler Mordy, chief executive officer and chief investment officer at Kelowna, B.C.-based Forstrong Global Asset Management Inc., sees India as the "poster child" for the next emerging-markets boom that extends far beyond China.

"India is a very classic emerging-markets story," says Mr. Mordy, whose team oversees the actively managed Forstrong Emerging Markets Equity ETF.

The country's population is moving up the income scale while infrastructure spending will increase productivity and ultimately lead to corporate profitability, he says.

Mr. Mordy doesn't see India's new coalition government having a negative impact on the economy. "Mr. Modi's pro-market reforms have already helped unleash India's growth potential."

The most significant aspect of the budget is the continued investment in infrastructure, with capital investment maintained at a record US\$133-billion, he says.

Indian stocks also have a dual tailwind of a growing domestic investor base, whereby its citizens are increasing savings and foreign investors are looking to diversify from China, he adds.

Although the increased capital gains tax on equities appears to have dampened some sentiment toward the Indian market, "the budget is largely positive," Mr. Mordy says. "It has a long-term focus on boosting employment and capital expenditure."

The key concern is Indian equities are trading at close to record-high multiples and are far more expensive than their emerging-market peers, he says. "Indian equities are basically priced for perfection with little room for negative surprises."

That's why the Forstrong ETF is underweight in India, with about a 12-per-cent exposure. Its India play stems from Franklin FTSE India ETF and indirectly through WisdomTree Emerging Markets High Dividend Fund. However, because of India's attractive long-term macroeconomic outlook, Mr. Mordy notes that Forstrong "plans to increase exposure if the Indian market experiences a meaningful correction."

Indian stocks have traded at a premium for a long time, he says. "We think they will continue to trade at a premium over their emerging-market peers simply because that long-term story is so good."

Index investing might be riskier than it looks

SCOTT BARLOW

OPINION

There is no credible financial study that disproves the idea that passive, broad index-based investing is the best market strategy for the vast majority of investors. A new academic study, however, implies that passive investing may become a victim of its own success.

Passive Investing and the Rise of Mega-Firms was written by Michigan State professor Hao Jiang, London School of Economics' Dimitri Vayanos and Lu Zheng

from the University of California-Irvine. The study concludes that passive investing "[raises] disproportionately the stock prices of the economy's largest firms, and especially those large firms that the market overvalues."

In simple terms, passive index buying results in large cap stock buying that is not price sensitive. Active managers' attempts to correct eventual valuation excesses through short selling are ineffective because of passive investor inflows that keep pushing the stock price higher. These active managers are then forced to cover their short positions, which pushes stock prices higher, which means they get a bigger

share of passive investor inflows. The study calls this "an amplification loop."

Passive assets invested in U.S. stocks have climbed from US\$23-billion in 1993 to US\$8.4-trillion at the end of 2021, according to the paper, exacerbating the trend. The result is that the biggest stocks get bigger and more expensive. With active managers powerless to put speed bumps in the way of valuation expansion, investors should start speculating as to how far things can go.

In case I need to restate this: No one can consistently pick market tops, so I am not arguing that disaster is imminent. More volatility, on the other hand,

would not be a big surprise.

The rise of passive investing is a massive change in market structure. There is a history in finance of new, good ideas being used until something breaks. As examples, portfolio insurance was blamed for the 1987 market panic and credit default swaps drove a lot of the excesses of the global financial crisis that started in 2007. It is not inevitable that passive investing will cause a problem, but it is important to look for one as part of risk management.

Apple Inc., Nvidia Corp., Microsoft Corp., Alphabet, Meta Platforms Inc., Tesla Inc. and Amazon.com make up 31 per

cent of the S&P 500 market capitalization. Their average trailing price to earnings ratio is 54.7 times although that number is skewed by Tesla's 116.4 times valuation. Whether this is a bubble and the extent to which passive investing is inflating valuations are matters of conjecture.

Again, passive investing is a good idea, all the research says so. But as far as I know, no research has taken into account the findings of the three academics about passive assets distorting large cap valuations.

The longer the percentage of assets in passive portfolios climbs, the more likely we are to find out the risks.

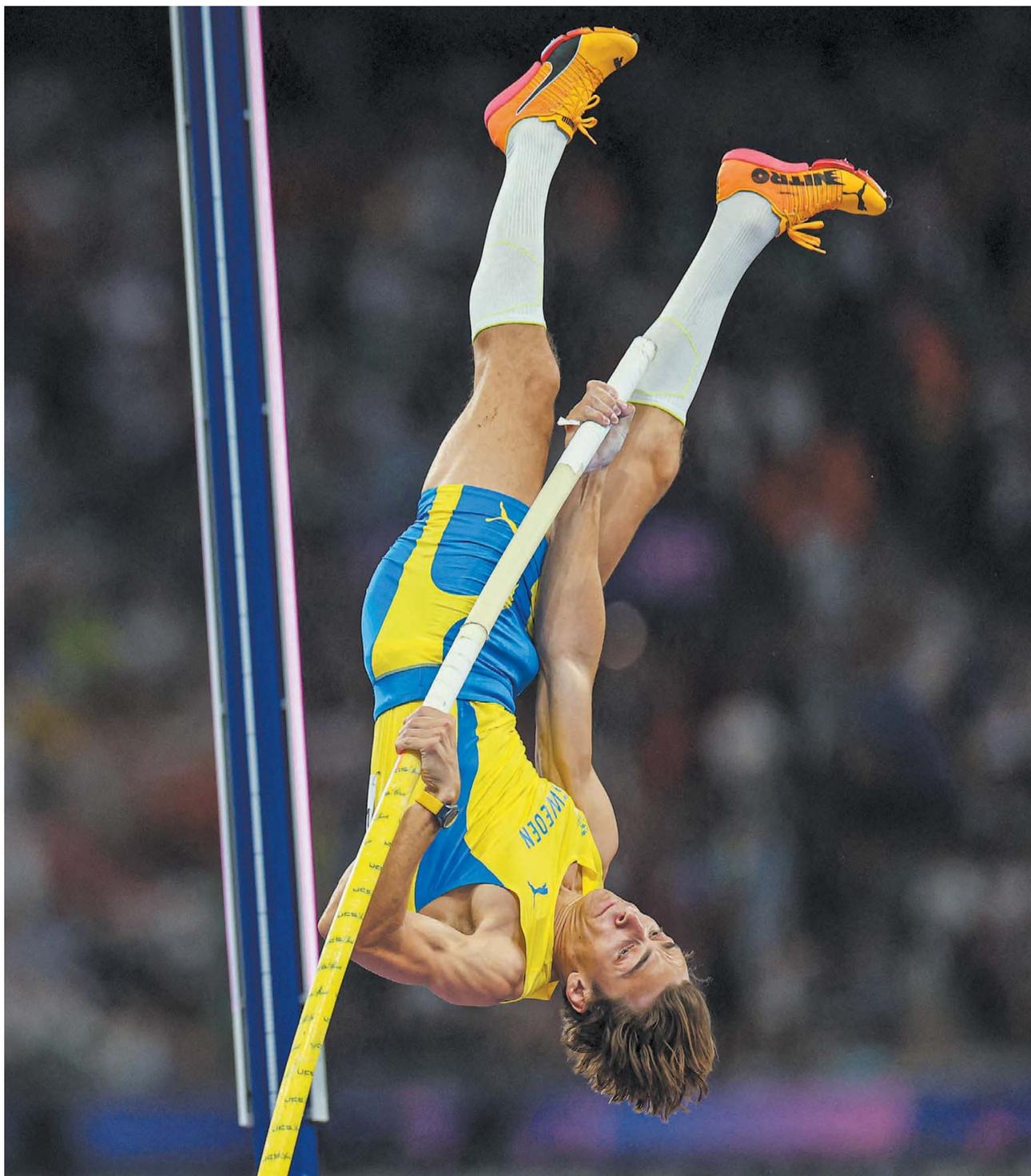


SPORTS

Canadian artistic swimming team takes plunge in Paris, writes **Robyn Doolittle** ■ B14

Olympics somehow don't feel whole with Russia missing, writes **Cathal Kelly** ■ B15

[PARIS 2024]



Armand (Mondo) Duplantis of Sweden ascends to a world record of 6.25 metres during the men's pole vault final at Stade de France in Saint-Denis on Monday. Duplantis won the gold medal to successfully defend the Olympic title he won in Tokyo. LISA LEUTNER/REUTERS

Duplantis caps golden night with pole vault world record

Swedish star soars to new heights to the delight of the crowd at the Paris Games

MITCH PHILLIPS PARIS

Sweden's Armand (Mondo) Duplantis retained his Olympic pole vault title with ludicrous ease on Monday, needing only four successful attempts to take gold with 6.00 metres, then capped a memorable night by beating his own world record with a clearance of 6.25.

Duplantis, one of the hottest favourites of the athletics program, went above and beyond to the delight of the crowd.

Having seen off silver-medalist American Sam Kendricks and Greece's bronze-winner Emmanouil Karalis for the gold, he duly knocked off 6.10 at the first attempt to overhaul Thiago Braz's Olympic record 6.03 from the 2016 Rio Games.

With all other events finished, the capacity Stade de France crowd then focused fully on Duplantis's bright yellow shirt and neon pink-lit pole frame as he tried to beat the world record of 6.24 he set in April.

The first two attempts were close but he slipped over and around the bar with incredible athleticism on the third, bringing a deafening roar from the 69,000 fans who had stayed to witness athletics history.

Still only 24 years old, Duplantis is the world-record holder, double Olympic, double world, triple European and double indoor world champion.

"I haven't processed how fantastic that moment was," he said. "It's one of those things that don't really feel real, such an out of body experience."

"It's the biggest possible stage for a

pole vaulter. The biggest dream since I was a kid was to break the world record at the Olympics, and I've been able to do that in front of the most ridiculous crowd I've ever competed in front of."

Around three hours earlier, the pole vault had been something of a sideshow to the track action as Duplantis entered the fray at 5.70 and promptly cleared it by about a metre.

He sat out 5.80 before flying easily over 5.85, as others all around him were starting to fall by the wayside.

He then cleared 6.00 – the ultimate target for most vaulters – as though he were warming up, and that was all he needed.

Kendricks, the 2017 and 2019 world champion and 2016 Olympic bronze medalist, missed the Tokyo Games after testing positive for COVID after

his arrival and spoke this week about the turmoil he suffered as brands considered him "damaged goods."

The pent-up emotion exploded when he equalled his season's best of 5.95 but he could not get over 6.00 with three attempts, leaving Duplantis as the winner on that height, without a fail.

Karalis, 24, cleared his personal best of 5.93 this season and was delighted to get over 5.90. His attempts at 5.95 and 6.00 never looked convincing but he was delighted with his bronze having finished joint-fourth in Tokyo.

It was Greece's fourth bronze in the event but first since 1956, after a shared bronze in the first Games of 1896, when the winning height was 3.30 metres.

REUTERS

Women continue to save Canada at the Olympics. No big deal

CATHAL KELLY

OPINION

PARIS

It's Monday afternoon, and Summer McIntosh is taking her Paris 2024 medals on tour at Canada House.

There are four of them, so getting them on is a real process. She starts with the silver so that the

three gold can overlay it. As she adds to the stack, she has to make sure they don't bang into each other too much. There's a lot of clanking and readjusting, leaning forward and backward and forward again. It's a bit like watching someone strap on armour.

"I wore them around for an hour," Ms. McIntosh says. "My neck's hurting now."

How heavy are they? "I don't know," she says. "You can try it out."

She pops off one of the golds

and hands it over. As you balance it – and it is heavy, about three hockey pucks' worth – it's not like Ms. McIntosh is watching like a hawk. Her attention has wandered to the person asking her the next question.

This is when you know you've passed from Olympic success story to Olympic legend – you have so many medals that you feel comfortable lending some of them out.

Later, when a CNN crew wanders in and seems mildly

shocked that they can't just rock up to Ms. McIntosh on their schedule, one of the Canadian flacks delivers this immortal line: "She has a call with our Prime Minister in four minutes."

Ms. McIntosh carries the banner, but it was a team effort. And by team, I mean women.

You will not be surprised to hear that, once again, women are saving Canada at the Olympics.

No shade on the men. They're doing just great. Even a few medals in the pool. The men

should be very proud. Keep it up.

But if our international reputation is at stake and you've got one competition to rescue it, call a woman. Five medals in the pool, including Ms. McIntosh's three golds. A gold in judo (Christa Deguchi). Medals in everything from rugby to rowing to fencing. Eleven of Canada's first 15 medals here were won by women.

We now take it for granted that Canada's sporting honour rests on the shoulders of half the country.

■ KELLY, B14



Canada's Andre De Grasse runs alongside Noah Lyles of the United States and Yang Chun-han, representing Taiwan, during a 200-metre sprint qualifying heat on Monday in Saint-Denis, France. CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympic champion De Grasse advances to 200-metre semis

Markham, Ont., native shakes finishes second in Heat 6 to new 100-metre winner Lyles

PARIS

It was a quick, tough turnaround, but Andre De Grasse is now focused on what's ahead.

The six-time Olympic medalist fell short of qualifying for the men's 100-metre final on Sunday night, a first in his career at the Games, and quickly pivoted to running the opening round of the 200 on Monday.

De Grasse, from Markham, Ont., ran a time of 20.30 seconds to finish second to American Noah Lyles (20.19) in Heat 6 and book his ticket into Wednesday's semi-finals at Stade de France. The final is set for Thursday night.

"It was tough," De Grasse said. "Of course you get the messages from family and back home and I tried to keep my phone on silent not to think about that because I was trying to shift my mind to the 200."

"Of course it's always tough

“Of course you have the Americans, you have the kid from Botswana [Letsile Tobogo] so there's a lot of people in that field that are going to bring their A-game, so I've got to make sure I'm on top of mine and just be ready for that moment.

ANDRE DE GRASSE
CANADIAN SPRINTER

when you get those messages like, 'It's okay,' and everyone's trying to cheer you up but I just had to shake that off and keep my phone on silent and not really answer those messages until after."

That wasn't all that was tough for the 29-year-old De Grasse.

"I didn't really get that much sleep last night, I guess I was so wired after the races," he said. "I had to just meditate and just relax, lay in bed for a little longer after breakfast."

"Today was tough to get up but at least now we got a day off tomorrow and then probably just do a shakeout, warm-up and get ready for the semi-finals on Wednesday."

De Grasse is the reigning Olympic champion in the 200, setting a personal best of 19.62 seconds at the Tokyo Games in 2021.

He missed the 100 final on Sunday night, finishing fifth with a season-best time of 9.98 seconds in the semi-finals. However, he has performed well in the 200 this year, demonstrating significant improvement after two years of injury and struggling to return to form.

He closed last season with his fourth-best time ever, 19.76 sec-

onds, to win the Diamond League title in September.

Before the Olympics, he last ran the 200 at the Hungarian Athletics Grand Prix on July 9, where he won with a season-best 19.98 seconds. His coach, Rana Reider, told The Canadian Press that De Grasse ran "really conservative" in that race.

"I always believe in myself, whether it's the 100 or 200," De Grasse said. "I work every single day to prepare for both events so, for me, I know it's going to be a task, it's not going to be a lay-down."

"Of course you have the Americans, you have the kid from Botswana [Letsile Tobogo] so there's a lot of people in that field that are going to bring their A-game, so I've got to make sure I'm on top of mine and just be ready for that moment."

In the women's 200, Audrey Leduc of Gatineau, Que., finished sixth in her semi-final and did not advance to Tuesday's final. Jacqueline Madogo of Guelph, Ont., who won her repechage heat earlier Monday, placed seventh in the other semi-final and also failed to qualify for the final.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

After 100-metre thriller, Lyles looks for an encore in his preferred event

EDDIE PELLIS SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE

All the overhead shots and race replays tell the same story. Noah Lyles only led one time during his Olympic 100-metre sprint for the ages: at the finish line.

There's a good argument that the rest of his stay at these Paris Games won't be anywhere near as nip-and-tuck.

With the Olympics still abuzz over his .005-second victory in the 100, Lyles didn't have much time to rest before moving to his next event. He is a heavy favourite in the 200 metres, his better race, and a race he has not lost since the Olympic final in Tokyo three years ago, where he finished third.

He said he got about four hours of sleep after the big race, after which he returned to the track Monday, where he won the opening heat in the 200 in 20.19 seconds.

Lyles's willingness – make that, desire – to be the front man for a sport that yearns for new fans feels like a game-changer to Seb Coe, the World Athletics president who called Sunday's race "if not perfect, about as close to perfect as you can get."

"If I'm wearing a promoter's hat, then him winning last night was important, because he's now creating a narrative that's heading us back into Usain Bolt territory," Coe said. "That's hugely important."

Lyles is not shy about what he wants from all this.

The 100 was the biggest hurdle for Lyles to overcome. It is not his best race, and it's the one he took up shortly after Tokyo with the goal of becoming more than a mere sprinter, but a larger-than-life personality, both on and off the track.

Lyles also figures to feature prominently in the men's 4x100 relay but that's anything but a gimme.

His biggest challenge in the 200 comes from Kenny Bednarek, who finished ahead of Lyles in Tokyo and, more recently, pushed him at a fast Olympic trials that Lyles won in 19.53.

Botswana's Letsile Tobogo, American Erryon Knighton and defending champion Andre De Grasse are also in the mix. One interesting wager would be whether Lyles has more of a chance of losing the race or lowering his American record of 19.31. Bolt's world record is 19.19.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada's 400-metre hope, Morales Williams, makes mark at Games

RACHEL BRADY PARIS

Many Canadians have not yet heard of Christopher Morales Williams. But they will soon.

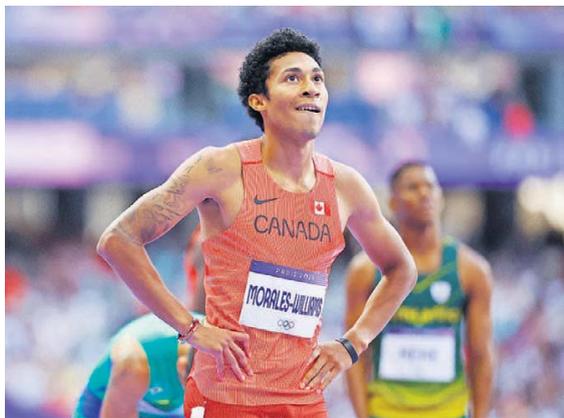
He is a 20-year-old 400-metre specialist making his Olympic debut in Paris, a young sprinter who ran one of the world's fastest times in that distance this year. Plus, he shares much in common with six-time Olympic medalist Andre De Grasse.

Morales Williams has worked with Tony Sharpe, the same coach who discovered De Grasse as a teenager, and Caryl Smith Gilbert, the same U.S. college coach De Grasse had. Both Canadian track athletes earned NCAA titles.

"They're both super kind, super humble people who always have time for everyone; no bravado, no showmanship," said Sharpe, the coach from Speed Academy, as he compared the two. "Similar elastic strength, so they're not big, muscular power runners."

The two Canadian Olympians, nearly 10 years apart in age, are similar but don't know each other well. Just as De Grasse had turned heads with his big performances at the University of Southern California, Morales Williams had a monster season at the University of Georgia, where he won NCAA national championships in both the indoor and outdoor.

He ran 44.05 seconds in May at the Southeastern Conference Outdoor Track & Field Championships, a world-leading time until American Quincy Hall (43.80) and then Brit Matthew



On Sunday, Canada's Christopher Morales Williams finished second in his first-round heat in the 400 metres to advance to Tuesday's semi-finals at the Paris Olympics. SARAH MEYSSONNIER/REUTERS

Hudson-Smith (43.74) bested it. Morales Williams is already through his debut Olympic race, clocking a 44.96-second lap to finish second in his first-round heat on the purple track inside Stade de France on Sunday, advancing to Tuesday's semi-final. But the young Canadian from Maple, Ont., isn't putting any pressure on himself in Paris.

"I have nothing to lose, right? If I lose, I just go back to school and continue with my life," he said.

Morales Williams turned pro just before the Olympics, signed a deal with Adidas and did some Diamond League races. But he plans to remain in Athens, Ga., to train at the University of Georgia and finish his degree in ecology.

He reasons his competitors in Paris have more pressure on them.

"These guys are like 30 years

old, they've got cars and kids. I don't even own a car. I don't even have to pay for gas," he said with a laugh. "What do I even need to worry about? Spending money on like pencils and notebooks and my scientific calculator?"

He was 15th fastest in the opening round heats, but says he came out slow to make sure he had enough fuel to finish the race. He knows he can be faster.

"The hardest part today was just getting the confidence to know that I actually belong here," he said. "It was just a bit of a stress being in such a big level. It's like you know, yeah, I'm just a kid from the NCAA."

That 44.05 he ran in May turned heads. Compare that to the times at the Tokyo Olympics – only one competitor clocked a time faster than that in the men's 400-metre final there in 2021, gold

medalist Steven Gardiner of the Bahamas, who ran it in 43.85.

Morales Williams is enjoying his Olympic debut. He chatted with Grenada's Kirani Jones after the race – the man who won his heat.

"I said I'm a big fan and he said likewise," Morales recounted. "I don't know. I guess they know who I am, right?"

Yes, they know him. And Canada is starting to learn about him, too.

When he was just 16 months old, Morales Williams lost his mother to lymphoma. He, his older sister and brother were raised by their father and their grandparents.

He became a young running phenom. In Grade 9, he eclipsed the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations record for the 400 in June of 2019, running it in 49.14.

"When you see a kid goes out and breaks an OFSAA record in Grade 9, you know he's special, that just doesn't happen," Sharpe said. "OFSAA has been around for decades and many great athletes have run the 400 in Grade 9."

That happened before the pandemic, so he didn't have a track season at his school in Grades 10 or 11 because of school closings in Ontario. So Sharpe took Morales Williams to meet in the U.S. where races were continuing, his father paying some \$200 in COVID tests every time they crossed the border.

Sharpe knew he was talented enough to land a scholarship to a U.S. college but many coaches were passing on the Canadian. But not Smith Gilbert, the woman who had led De Grasse at USC but by then was coaching at the

University of Georgia.

"I remember Tony telling me, 'I think I've got a 400 kid who is gonna be really good,'" De Grasse recalled. The Canadian Olympic medalist in the 100, 200 and 4x100-metre relay watched Morales Williams and was impressed at how fast he was running with form that could still use correcting.

"I'm like, okay. I see what I see what you see, Tony. He's going to be good," De Grasse added. "He's doing all the right things, and I'm just excited to see how far he can take it."

Morales Williams remembers De Grasse coming to visit the young athletes at Speed Academy and providing clothing for them, too. He and his brother got a photo taken with the Olympian.

Now he's an Olympian just like De Grasse. Earlier this week, Morales Williams talked himself through his first race, correcting, pushing, not stressing, but digging deep to get himself qualified. He wanted to qualify directly with the best in the 400, not have to run an extra race in the repechage round.

"Nah, I'm not getting out this round. I don't want to run that junky round tomorrow," he said to himself.

Many of Morales Williams's family members and supporters were in Paris watching. Some were inside Stade de France, while others, like Sharpe, watched that round on TV at Canada House in Paris but hope to be there in person for the semi-finals.

"He's got another decade of incredible sprinting ahead of him," Sharpe said. "So it's quite exciting."

Canada falls to U.S. in women's 3x3 bronze match

Plouffe sisters, Bosch and Crozon just miss podium as Americans eke out narrow victory

RACHEL BRADY PARIS

The women on Canada's 3x3 basketball team circled up in a tight, teary embrace in Paris on Monday night, after falling just shy of securing a medal in their Olympic debut.

The Canadians lost a tight bronze-medal game 16-13 to the United States, before a packed house at Place de la Concorde. Later, Germany beat Spain 17-16 for the gold medal.

The Canadians lost their semifinal to Germany earlier Monday before playing a couple of hours later for bronze. Katherine Plouffe had five points for Canada in the loss to the United States while Michelle Plouffe and Kacie Bosch

each added three.

Canada's four-woman squad of Paige Crozon, Bosch and sisters Michelle and Katherine Plouffe were crushed to leave empty-handed after being the country's first team at the Games in this growing version of the sport.

"We didn't get the outcome we wanted but it doesn't make the journey any less important," said Michelle Plouffe, who along with her twin had also played for the Canadian women's basketball team at the 2012 and 2016 Olympics before focusing on the 3x3 brand of the game.

The 3x3 event (dubbed literally 'three-x-three') made its debut at the Olympics in Tokyo three years ago, so this was just the second edition. Paris was the first time Canada qualified a team in the event.

"Our goal was to grow the game of 3x3 when we started and we put a team together for Canada. It was our vision, always bigger than just our team, to have an actual pro-

gram," she added. "To have the support of Canada Basketball and to have girls who are now interested in playing 3x3 ... it was always about leaving a legacy behind, and I think we've made a big leap forward."



I would rather have my neck a little bit heavier right now, but the journey is worth it. I love 3x3. It's been quite a ride for my basketball career. I've had so much more fun playing basketball.

KATHERINE PLOUFFE
CANADIAN 3X3 PLAYER

This 3x3 tournament took place outdoors and had a festival vibe, part of a large venue at Place de la Concorde, in the heart of Pa-

ris, that is shared with the Olympic skateboarding and BMX events.

This street version is played on an urban half-court with just one hoop and features two teams with three players and one sub each. In Paris, it took place with packed stands and under a big-top-style tent roof with roving high-tech cameras capturing it from every angle.

It's a 10-minute game that moves fast, with a 12-second shot clock and no breaks after baskets. Music blares throughout the game. The first team to 21 points wins.

There was play-by-play being broadcast live over the speakers, with commentary like "the two Canadian twins are connecting like bluetooth." Paris served up heat and humidity for the event. The venue was busy and vibrant. The scene was often so loud and raucous that the Canadian players couldn't hear one another on the court. However, the Cana-

dians have played together around the world, so they have learned to communicate without words. This Olympic tournament, though, was the biggest stage yet.

"We have called it the ultramarathon of 3x3 tournaments to play 10 games in five days," Crozon said. "It was just physically, mentally, emotionally so draining, but the most amazing to play in."

"I would rather have my neck a little bit heavier right now, but the journey is worth it," Katherine Plouffe said. "I love 3x3. It's been quite a ride for my basketball career. I've had so much more fun playing basketball."

It's different, she said, to play with a four-woman team than a large group.

"I've had teammates that have become really tight friends and sisters and, so, it's just a lot more on our shoulders when we play just three of us," she added. "Everyone contributes so much. But I think that's why maybe it hurts a little bit more too."

FIVE THINGS TO WATCH AT THE GAMES ON TUESDAY

HAMMER HOPES

Camryn Rogers of Richmond, B.C., is the favourite to win gold in the women's hammer throw. Rogers, who entered the Olympics ranked No. 1 in the world in her sport, qualified first in her group for Tuesday's final with a throw of 74.69 metres. Rogers is hoping to complete a Canadian sweep of hammer-throwing gold in Paris after Ethan Katzberg of Nanaimo, B.C., dominated Sunday's men's event. Rogers and Katzberg also swept the gold medals at the 2023 world championships in Budapest.

STAR-STUDED QUARTERS

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander leads Canada into a men's basketball quarter-final against Victor Wembanyama and France at the Bercy Arena in Paris. Canada went 3-0 through the preliminary round, but now must face a medal contender to have a shot at bringing home hoops hardware for the first time since a silver at the 1936 Berlin Games. Canada beat France 85-73 in an Olympic tune-up on July 19 behind 23 points from Gilgeous-Alexander.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

Calgary's Caeli McKay looks to step on the Olympic podium for the first time when she competes in the women's 10-metre platform diving final. McKay advanced by finishing seventh in Monday's semi-finals after placing third in the preliminary round. McKay has twice finished fourth in the Olympic synchro 10m competition, including at these Games, and would love to go one step further on Tuesday.

DYNAMIC DEBUT

Christopher Morales-Williams looks to build on his Olympic debut when he runs in the 400-metre semi-finals. The 20-year-old from Vaughan, Ont., qualified for the semis by finishing second in his heat. The 16th-ranked Canadian has the third-highest seeding of the nine runners in his semi-final, which includes No. 2 Matthew Hudson-Smith of Britain. Regardless of the competition, Morales-Williams has already shown he is capable of putting down a competitive time.

TOUGH TASK

Canada's women's water polo team looks to pull off a major upset when it takes on Spain in quarter-final action at Paris La Defense Arena. Spain, the silver medalist three years ago in Tokyo, cruised through the preliminary round with a 4-0 record. Canada was 1-3, but its win over China allowed it to take the fourth and final quarter-final spot in its group. Spain has won four successive matches over Canada, including a 12-9 victory at this year's world title. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	67	46	.593	—
New York	67	46	.593	—
Boston	59	51	.536	6½
Tampa Bay	57	54	.514	9
Toronto	51	61	.455	15½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	67	44	.604	—
Minnesota	62	48	.564	4½
Kansas City	63	50	.558	5
Detroit	53	60	.469	15
Chicago	27	87	.237	41½
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	59	54	.522	—
Houston	57	54	.514	1
Texas	53	59	.473	5½
Los Angeles	49	63	.438	9½
Oakland	46	67	.407	13
Monday				

Arizona at Cleveland
Houston at Texas
Minnesota at Chicago Cubs
Boston at Kansas City
Chicago White Sox at Oakland

Sunday

Kansas City 3, Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 1, Houston 0
Baltimore 9, Cleveland 5
N.Y. Yankees 4, Toronto 3, 10 innings
Boston 7, Texas 2
Minnesota 13, Chicago White Sox 7
L.A. Dodgers 3, Oakland 2
Philadelphia 6, Seattle 0
L.A. Angels 3, N.Y. Mets 2

Tuesday

All Times Eastern

Arizona (TBD) at Cleveland (Lively 10-6), 6:40 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Daniel 1-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Gil 11-5), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Rodriguez 13-4) at Toronto (Bassitt 8-10), 7:07 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Springs 0-0) at St. Louis (Gray 10-6), 7:45 p.m.
Houston (Valdez 10-5) at Texas (Mahle 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Lopez 10-7) at Chicago Cubs (Imanaga 8-2), 8:05 p.m.
Boston (Bello 10-5) at Kansas City (Lugo 13-5), 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Cannon 1-5) at Oakland (Stripling 2-10), 9:40 p.m.
Detroit (Montero 1-5) at Seattle (Castillo 9-10), 9:40 p.m.

Wednesday

Arizona at Cleveland, 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
Houston at Texas, 2:35 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Tampa Bay at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m.
Boston at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.
Detroit at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	66	45	.595	—
Atlanta	60	51	.541	6
New York	59	53	.527	7½
Washington	51	62	.451	16
Miami	42	70	.375	24½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	62	49	.559	—
Pittsburgh	56	55	.505	6
St. Louis	57	56	.504	6
Chicago	55	59	.482	8½
Cincinnati	53	58	.477	9
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	65	47	.580	—
San Diego	61	52	.540	4½
Arizona	60	52	.536	5
San Francisco	57	57	.500	9
Colorado	41	72	.363	24½
Monday				

N.Y. Mets 6, St. Louis 0
San Francisco 4, Washington 1
Cincinnati at Miami
Minnesota at Chicago Cubs
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers

Sunday

San Francisco 8, Cincinnati 2
Washington 4, Milwaukee 3
Miami 7, Atlanta 0
Arizona 6, Pittsburgh 5
L.A. Dodgers 3, Oakland 2
Philadelphia 6, Seattle 0
L.A. Angels 3, N.Y. Mets 2
San Diego 10, Colorado 2
Chicago Cubs 6, St. Louis 2

Tuesday

All Times Eastern

Arizona (TBD) at Cleveland (Lively 10-6), 6:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Lodolo 8-4) at Miami (Meyer 2-1), 6:40 p.m.
San Diego (Cease 11-8) at Pittsburgh (Falter 5-7), 6:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Birdsong 3-0) at Washington (Gore 6-9), 6:45 p.m.
Milwaukee (Rea 9-3) at Atlanta (Sale 13-3), 7:20 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Springs 0-0) at St. Louis (Gray 10-6), 7:45 p.m.
Minnesota (Lopez 10-7) at Chicago Cubs (Imanaga 8-2), 8:05 p.m.
Boston (Bello 10-5) at Kansas City (Lugo 13-5), 8:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Severino 7-4) at Colorado (Freeland 3-4), 8:40 p.m.
Philadelphia (Sánchez 7-7) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 0-1), 10:10 p.m.

Wednesday

Arizona at Cleveland, 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
Cincinnati at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.
San Francisco at Washington, 6:45 p.m.
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.
Tampa Bay at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

2024 MLS-LIGA MX LEAGUES CUP

(Note: Games do not count in standings)

GROUP STAGE

Monday
New York City F.C. vs. Cincinnati
Salt Lake City vs. Houston
Colorado vs. Leon (Liga MX)
Kansas City vs. Toluca (Liga MX)

Sunday
Cruz Azul (Liga MX) 1 Philadelphia 1 (Cruz Azul wins 5-3 on penalties)
Juarez (Liga MX) 1 St. Louis 1 (Juarez wins 1-0 on penalties)
L.A. Galaxy 2 Chivas (Liga MX) 2 (L.A. Galaxy wins 5-4 on penalties)
Necaxa (Liga MX) 3 Seattle 1
San Luis (Liga MX) 1 Orlando 1 (Orlando wins 5-4 on penalties)
Santos Laguna (Liga MX) 0 Allianta 0 (Santos Laguna wins 5-3 on penalties)
Toronto 1 Pachuca (Liga MX) 0

Tuesday
All Times Eastern
Nashville vs. New England, 7:30 p.m.

END OF GROUP STAGE

CPL

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Ottawa	17	8	4	5	30	21	29
York	17	8	5	4	27	23	28
Hamilton	16	7	5	4	28	22	25
Calgary	17	5	3	9	18	15	24
Victoria	16	5	6	5	14	16	20
Vancouver	17	5	7	5	22	20	20
Winnipeg	17	5	10	2	20	29	17
Halifax	15	4	7	4	20	23	16

Monday
Halifax 3 Vancouver 2

Sunday
Winnipeg 2 Hamilton 1

Saturday, Aug. 10
All Times Eastern
Halifax at Calgary, 4 p.m.
Ottawa at Hamilton, 7 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	Pt			
Montreal	8	7	1	0	228	168	14			
Ottawa	7	5	2	0	174	167	10			
Toronto	8	4	4	0	217	209	8			
Hamilton	8	2	6	0	211	254	4			
WEST DIVISION										
	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt			
British Columbia	8	5	3	0	206	195	10			
Saskatchewan	8	5	3	0	214	200	10			
Calgary	8	4	4	0	192	220	8			
Winnipeg	9	3	6	0	188	186	6			
Edmonton	8	1	7	0	216	247	2			

Bye: Ottawa
Sunday
Calgary 27 Toronto 23

WEEK 10
Bye: Winnipeg

Thursday
All Times Eastern
Saskatchewan at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.

CEBL

PLAYOFFS
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Sunday
East — Niagara (1) 94 Ottawa (3) 91
West — Calgary (3) 78 Edmonton (2) 69

CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND
All Montreal
Friday, Aug. 9
CONFERENCE FINALS
West — Vancouver (1) vs. Calgary, 5:30 p.m.
East — Niagara (1) vs. Montreal (host), 8 p.m.

CEBL CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday, Aug. 11
East vs. West Winners, 6 p.m.

NFL

PRESEASON

Thursday
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.

Saturday, Aug. 10
Washington at N.Y. Jets, 12 p.m.
Chicago at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Las Vegas at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
Green Bay at Cleveland, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at Jacksonville, 7 p.m.
San Francisco at Tennessee, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati, 7 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Chargers, 7:05 p.m.
New Orleans at Arizona, 8 p.m.

PGA TOUR

FEDEX CUP LEADERS

Through Aug. 4		
	Points	Money
1. Scottie Scheffler	5,993	\$28,148,691
2. Xander Schauffele	4,057	\$15,867,160
3. Rory McIlroy	2,545	\$10,353,190
4. Collin Morikawa	2,456	\$8,030,477
5. Wyndham Clark	2,154	\$9,912,305
6. Ludvig Aberg	2,092	\$8,149,523
7. Sahithi Theegala	2,037	\$8,154,585
8. Hideki Matsuyama	1,899	\$7,637,611
9. Sungjae Im	1,883	\$5,514,330
10. Shane Lowry	1,867	\$5,704,520
11. Patrick Cantlay	1,780	\$5,530,854
12. Byeong Hun An	1,755	\$5,424,103
13. Russell Henley	1,671	\$4,721,969
14. Tony Finau	1,635	\$5,032,356
15. Akshay Bhatia	1,610	\$4,859,905
16. Matthieu Pavon	1,569	\$5,078,046
17. Robert MacIntyre	1,535	\$4,755,384
18. Sepp Straka	1,498	\$4,213,968
19. Justin Thomas	1,445	\$4,243,561
20. Tom Hoge	1,411	\$4,227,518
21. Brian Harman	1,409	\$4,870,348
22. C. Beitzel	1,370	\$4,651,538
23. Jason Day	1,345	\$3,822,352
24. Davis Thompson	1,333	\$3,802,522
25. Taylor Pendrith	1,324	\$4,059,493
26. Chris Kirk	1,318	\$5,396,536
27. Billy Horschel		

Canada at the Games

MEDAL STREAK ENDS

The Maple Leaf was not raised on Day 10 of the Paris Olympics after Canadian athletes were held off the podium for the first time at the Games. The women's 3x3 basketball team had given hope that Canada would stretch its opening medal streak to a record 10 days when it led the United States halfway through its bronze-medal game. But the Canadians couldn't hang on, meaning Canada would hold at 17 medals (five gold, four silver, eight bronze) entering the final six days of competition. The nine straight days of winning a medal after the opening ceremony equal Canada's performance at the 2016 games in Rio de Janeiro. The medal drought isn't expected to last long. Camryn Rogers of Richmond, B.C., is the heavy favourite to win gold in the women's hammer throw on Tuesday. And several Canadian athletes set themselves up for potential medals down the road with strong performances Monday.

HUMANA-PAREDES, WILKERSON INTO BEACH VOLLEYBALL QUARTER-FINAL
Canada's Melissa Humana-Paredes and Brandie Wilkerson are through to the quarter-finals of the women's beach volleyball competition at the Paris Olympics after a 2-0 upset of Americans Taryn Kloth and Kristen Nuss in the Round of 16 on Monday. Humana-Paredes and Wilkerson, both from Toronto, posted set scores of 21-19, 21-18 in the victory over the Americans, who entered the match ranked second in the world. The Americans made it tight at the end of the second set, when a block by Kloth evened the score at 18-18. Wilkerson responded with a block, then Canada won the next two points with Humana-Paredes serving. The fourth-seeded Canadians advanced to the Round of 16 with a 2-0 win in the "lucky loser" round over Barbora Hermannova and Marie-Sara Stochlova of Czechia after finishing third in their group. They will next face Spain's Daniela Alvarez and Tania Moreno on Wednesday.

CAELI MCKAY TO COMPETE IN WOMEN'S 10M FINAL

Canadian diver Caeli McKay will be competing in the women's 10-metre platform final at the Paris Olympics. McKay, of Calgary, finished seventh out of 18 in the semi-final on Monday after scoring a total of 308.85 over five dives. China's Quan Hongchan and Chen Yuxi topped the scoreboard, with 421.05 and 403.05 respectively, with Britain's Andrea Spendolini Sirieix coming in third with 367.00. The top 12 advanced to Tuesday's final. The scores from the semi-final do not carry over but determine the diving order, which will be the reverse of the semi-final ranking. Heading into the finals, the 25-year-old McKay frames the competition as China versus everyone else, with everyone else chasing bronze. Ottawa's Kate Miller was eliminated in the preliminary round earlier on Monday, coming in 20th. Earlier this week, McKay and Miller fell just short of the podium with a fourth-place finish in women's 10-metre synchronized diving.

KATZBERG HOPES ROGERS CAN LIFT CANADA TO DOUBLE GOLD IN HAMMER THROW

After Ethan Katzberg won the men's hammer throw at the Paris Olympics, it's Camryn Rogers's turn to go for gold in the women's event. The two athletes put Canada on the map as a hammer-throw nation by sweeping the top of the podium at last year's world championships in Budapest, Hungary. They're partway to holding up that reputation in Paris, and Katzberg is excited about what double Olympic gold could mean for the sport back home. "It happened last year in Budapest, and then for it to happen in the Olympics, that would be incredible for hammer throw in Canada and just athletics in general," Katzberg said Monday. Katzberg, a 22-year-old from Nanaimo, B.C., dominated the competition Sunday with a winning throw of 84.12 metres on his first attempt. Earlier Sunday, the 25-year-old Rogers of Richmond, B.C., won her group with a throw of 74.69 metres, the second furthest throw of the day, to advance to Tuesday's final.

CANADIANS ADVANCE IN POLE VAULT, STEEPLECHASE

Alysha Newman advanced into her first Olympic women's pole vault final. The 30-year-old from London, Ont., cleared 4.55 metres on her first attempt in qualifying action to advance. Qualifying for Wednesday's final required clearing 4.70 metres or being among the top 12 performers. Newman was one of 11 vaulters to clear the 4.55 mark. Newman is the Canadian record holder at 4.83 metres and is in her third Olympics. Saskatoon's Anicka Newell did not qualify after failing to get over the bar on all three of her attempts at 4.55. Jean-Simon Desgagnés also qualified for the men's 3,000-metre steeplechase final on Monday. The 26-year-old from Quebec City finished fifth in Heat 3 with a time of 8 minutes 25.28 seconds to take the last qualifying spot in his heat for Wednesday's final.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Around the Games

AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALANDER WIN FIRST KAYAK CROSS GOLDS

Australia's Noemie Fox followed in her sister's footsteps to pick up the Olympic gold medal in women's kayak cross on Monday, with Finn Butcher of New Zealand winning the men's event. Fox's sister Jessica secured the first two golds in canoe and kayak slalom on the whitewater course, and her younger sibling made it a family affair when she came out on top in a thrilling decider. Angèle Hug took silver for France and British world No. 1 Kimberley Woods took bronze, the first Olympic medals to be handed out in the discipline as it made its debut at the Paris Games. In the men's race, top-ranked Briton Joe Clarke had to be content with silver after getting caught up in traffic early on, allowing Kiwi Butcher to move ahead, where he stayed until he crossed the finish line. Germany's Noah Hegge came third to take the bronze.

CHEBET TAKES GOLD IN THE 5,000; KIPYEGON'S SILVER REINSTATED

SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE Kenya's Beatrice Chebet won the women's Olympic 5,000 metres as she delivered a textbook performance to outkick compatriot Faith Kipyegon, whose silver medal was reinstated after she had been controversially disqualified. Chebet won in 14 minutes 28.56 seconds as the Netherlands' Sifan Hassan (14:30.61) claimed silver and Italian Nadia Battocletti took bronze (14:31.64). Chebet produced a thrilling finish to win the first medal for her country at the Paris Olympics and smiled widely as she crossed the line after an exhausting performance. World champion Kipyegon had finished second in 14:29.60 but was disqualified after a clash with Ethiopian world record holder Gudaf Tsegay on the penultimate lap. Her silver medal, however, was later reinstated following an appeal by the Kenyan team, pushing Hassan down to bronze-medal position and bumping Battocletti off the podium.

FRANCE TO PLAY SPAIN IN OLYMPIC SOCCER FINAL

Juanlu Sánchez came off the bench to lift Spain into a record-equalling fifth Olympic men's soccer final. Sánchez scored in the 85th minute at Stade de Marseille to seal a 2-1 win over Morocco and set up a final against France. Morocco led 1-0 at half-time after the tournament's leading scorer Soufiane Rahimi converted a penalty in the 37th. Spain, which won gold at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, lost in the final at the Tokyo Games three years ago to Brazil. Hosts France will play an Olympic men's soccer final for the first time in 40 years after beating Egypt 3-1 in extra time at the Lyon stadium on Monday. France fought back after conceding their first goal in the tournament when Mahmoud Saber grabbed a stunning lead for Egypt before Jean-Philippe Matala levelled with a late strike. Matala got a double before Michael Olise scored in extra time to earn Thierry Henry's side the victory and extend their quest for a second Olympic title in Friday's final at Parc des Princes.

ITALY WINS THE FIRST OLYMPIC MIXED TEAM SKEET GOLD MEDAL

CHATEAUROUX, FRANCE After four Olympic gold medals, Vincent Hancock has had to settle for a silver. Italy edged the United States 45-44 on Monday in the final of the first Olympic mixed team skeet competition, the first time U.S. shooter Hancock has won a medal of any colour other than gold in an Olympic career going back to 2008. Italy's Gabriele Rossetti and Diana Bacosi, both individual skeet gold medalists in 2016, needed to hit at least seven of their last eight targets to win the gold medal and avoid a shoot-off. Rossetti missed one of his four – after hitting 20 targets in a row – but Bacosi closed out the contest with four hits to win the last shooting event of the Paris Olympics.

BRITISH CYCLISTS SET WORLD RECORD IN WOMEN'S TEAM SPRINT

The British trio of Katy Marchant, Sophie Capewell and Emma Finucane shattered the world record in the women's team sprint while beating New Zealand in a head-to-head showdown for the gold medal to open the track cycling program. In the three-lap race, the British trio trailed Rebecca Petch, Shaane Fulton and Ellesse Andrews after the first 250 metres. But they quickly pulled ahead after the second lap, then blitzed the last to finish in 45.196 seconds, earning their country's first medal inside the Vélodrome National de Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines. Despite its proud sprinting tradition, the British had repeatedly missed the podium since the event's debut in 2008.

REUTERS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BASKETBALL

MEN

Tuesday, August 6

QUARTERFINALS

Germany vs Greece 5 a.m.
Serbia vs Australia 8:30 a.m.
France vs Canada 12 p.m.
Brazil vs United States 3:30 p.m.

WOMEN

Sunday, August 4

Belgium 85, Japan 58
Nigeria 79, Canada 70
United States 87, Germany 68

3-ON-3 BASKETBALL

MEN

Sunday, August 4

France 21, China 12
Latvia 22, Poland 16
Lithuania 20, Serbia 18
Netherlands 21, United States 6

QUARTERFINALS

Lithuania 21, Poland 15
France 22, Serbia 19

Monday, August 5

SEMIFINALS

Netherlands 20, Lithuania 9
France 21, Latvia 14

BRONZE MEDAL MATCH

Lithuania 21, Latvia 18

GOLD MEDAL MATCH

Netherlands 18, France 17 (OT)

WOMEN

Monday, August 5

SEMIFINALS

Germany 16, Canada 15
Spain 18, United States 16

BRONZE MEDAL MATCH

United States 16, Canada 13

GOLD MEDAL MATCH

Germany 17, Spain 16

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

MEN

ROUND OF 16

Monday, August 5

Spain 2, Poland 0 (23-21, 21-18)
Norway 2, United States 0 (21-16, 21-14)
United States 2, Italy 0 (21-17, 21-18)
Qatar 2, Chile 0 (21-14, 21-13)
Sunday, August 4

Sunday, August 4

Brazil 2, United States 0 (21-16, 21-17)
Netherlands 2, Czech Republic 0 (21-18, 21-16)
Sweden 2, Cuba 1 (21-11, 26-28, 15-11)
Brazil 2, Netherlands 0 (21-16, 21-16)

QUARTERFINALS

Tuesday, August 6

Germany vs Netherlands 11 a.m.
Brazil vs Sweden 12 p.m.

WOMEN

ROUND OF 16

Monday, August 5

Latvia 2, Germany 1 (21-13, 17-21, 18-16)
Spain 2, Netherlands 1 (18-21, 21-19, 15-13)

WHAT CANADA DID

SUNDAY

(distances in metres)

ATHLETICS

Women's 200 — Audrey Leduc of Gatineau, Que., placed 15th in the semifinals (22.68); Jacqueline Madogo, Ottawa, won her heat in the repechage round (22.58) to advance to the semis where she was 20th (22.81) — neither qualified for the final.
Women's 400 — Zoe Sherar, Toronto, had a season-best 51.97 to place 36th in qualifying; Lauren Gale, Ottawa, ran 53.14 (43rd) — both will race in the repechage round.
Women's pole vault — Alysha Newman, Delaware, Ont., had a best mark of 4.55 metres to finish seventh in qualifying and earn a berth in the final; Anicka Newell, Saskatoon, was 26th (4.40), did not advance.
Men's 200 — Brendon Rodney, Toronto, posted a season-best 20.30 for the 12th-fastest time in qualification; Andre De Grasse, Markham, Ont. — the reigning gold medalist from Tokyo — was 14th (20.30) — both earned a semifinals berth; and Aaron Brown, Toronto, was 18th (20.36) and will

try to advance through the repechage.

Men's 3,000 steeplechase — Jean-Simon Desgagnés of Saint-Ferred-les-Neiges, Que., finished fifth in his qualifying heat (8:25.28) to earn a spot in the final.

BASKETBALL (3-ON-3)

Women — Katherine Plouffe, Edmonton, scored five points as Canada lost 16-13 in the bronze-medal game to the United States. They had lost in the semifinal round earlier Monday to Germany, 16-15.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Women — Melissa Humana-Paredes and Brandie Wilkerson, both Toronto, won their round-of-16 match over Kristen Nuss and Taryn Kloth of the U.S., 2-0 (21-19, 21-18) to earn a berth in the quarterfinals against Spain.

CYCLING (TRACK)

Women's team sprint — Canada (Lauriane Genest, Levis, Que.; Sarah Orban, Calgary; and Kelsey Mitchell, Sherwood Park, Alta.) finished eighth in the event after losing to Poland in the seventh-place race by 0.345 seconds (47.631).

Men's team pursuit — Canada (Dylan Bibic, Mississauga, Ont.; Michael Foley, Milton, Ont.; Mathias Guillet, Trois-Rivières, Que.; and Carson Mathern, Ancaster, Ont.) earned the final berth in the series by finish-

ing eighth in qualifying for the four-kilometre race (3:48.964). They will compete against the host French in the opening round.

Men's team sprint — Canada (Tyler Rorke, Baden, Ont.; Nick Wammes, Bothwell, Ont.; and James Hedgcock, Ancaster, Ont.) were eighth in qualification (43.905) and will race against Netherlands on Tuesday.

DIVING

Women's 10-metre platform — Caeli McKay, Calgary, earned a spot in Tuesday's final after finishing seventh in the semifinals with a score of 308.85; Kate Miller, Ottawa, was 20th in qualifying (266.30) and did not advance.

EQUESTRIAN

Jumping individual qualifier — Mario Deslauriers of Venise-en-Quebec City, aboard Emerson, placed 31st with a score of 74.93 after incurring four penalties; Eryn Ballard, Tottenham, Ont. (Nikka vd Bisschop) was 37th (76.60, four); and Tiffany Foster, Langley, B.C. (Battley), finished 50th (76.78, eight) — none advanced to the final.

SAILING

ILCA 6 — Sarah Douglas, Toronto, was ninth and 14th in the final two races of the opening series to rank 10th overall

and clinch a berth in the medal race.

Women's Kiteboarding — Emily Bugeja, North Vancouver, was 17th in the only run of the day due to race conditions and stands in 19th place heading into the five trials on Tuesday.

SWIMMING (ARTISTIC)

Team technical routine — Canada (Scarlett Finn, Toronto; Audrey Lamothe, Montreal; Jonnie Newman, Calgary; Raphaëlle Plante, Quebec City; Kenzie Pridell, Regina; Claire Scheffel, Brantford, Ont.; Jacqueline Simoneau, Saint-Laurent, Que.; and Florence Tremblay, Rimouski, Que.) finished fifth with 262.4808 points.

TABLE TENNIS

Men's team — Canada (Jeremy Hazin, Richmond Hill, Ont.; Edward Ly, Lachine, Que.; and Eugene Wang, Aurora, Ont.) were eliminated with a loss in the round-of-16 against Germany, 3-0 (3-1 in doubles with Hazin and Wang; and in singles, Ly lost 3-1 and Wang fell 3-0).

WRESTLING

Women's 68-kilogram class — Linda Morais, Tecumseh, Ont., was eliminated after losing her opening match against Blessing Oborududu of Nigeria, 8-2.

QUARTERFINALS

Poland 3, Slovenia 1 (25-20, 24-26, 25-19, 25-20)
Italy 3, Japan 2 (25-20, 25-23, 25-27, 24-26, 15-17)
France 3, Germany 2 (18-25, 26-28, 25-20, 25-21, 15-13)
United States 3, Brazil 1 (24-26, 30-28, 19-25, 19-25)

WOMEN

Sunday, August 4

Italy 3, Turkey 0 (25-14, 25-16, 25-21)
United States 3, France 0 (29-27, 29-27, 25-20)
China 3, Serbia 1 (25-21, 20-25, 22-25, 27-29)
Brazil 3, Poland 0 (25-21, 38-36, 25-14)

Tuesday, August 6

QUARTERFINALS

China vs Turkey 3 a.m.
Brazil vs Dominican Republic 7 a.m.
United States vs Poland 11 a.m.
Italy vs Serbia 3 p.m.

WATER POLO

MEN

Monday, August 5

Hungary 17, Serbia 13
Japan 14, Australia 13
Greece 9, Italy 8
United States 14, Croatia 11
Spain 10, France 8
Montenegro 10, Romania 7

WOMEN

Sunday, August 4

Australia 14, Hungary 12
(Australia wins 5-3 in shootout)
Spain 13, Italy 11
Netherlands 20, Canada 11
Greece 11, France 4

Tuesday, August 6

QUARTERFINALS

China vs Turkey 3 a.m.
Brazil vs Dominican Republic 7 a.m.
United States vs Poland 11 a.m.
Italy vs Serbia 3 p.m.

WOMEN

KITE

Opening Series

Race 5

1. Elena Lengwiler, Switzerland (1, 1, 1, 1, 4).
2. Daniela Moroz, United States (2, 2, 2, 2, 8).
3. Leonie Meyer, Germany (3, 3, 3, 3, 12).
4. Eleanor Aldridge, Britain (7, 5, 5, 4, 4, 18).
5. Gal Zukerman, Israel (5, 9, 4, 4, 5, 19).
Also
18. Emily Bugeja, Canada (17, 17, 17, 17, 17), 68.

DINGHY

Opening Series

Race 9

1. Maria Erdi, Hungary (2, 1, 1, 1, 1), 4.
2. Lucia Falasca, Argentina (4, 6, 2, 2, 8).
3. Line Flem Hoest, Norway (3, 3, 3, 3, 12).
4. Anne-Marie Rindom, Denmark (5, 4, 4, 4, 4), 16.
5. Elena Oetling Ramirez, Mexico (10, 9, 5, 5, 5), 24.
Also
15. Sarah Douglas, Canada (18, 16, 14, 13, 14), 57.

SOCCER

MEN

PLAYOFFS

Monday, August 5

SEMIFINALS

Spain 2, Morocco 1
France 3, Egypt 1

WOMEN

PLAYOFFS

Tuesday, August 6

SEMIFINALS

United States 3 p.m.
Brazil vs Spain, 3 p.m.

SWIMMING

Monday

OPEN

TEAM — FINAL

Technical Routine

1. China (Chang Hao; Feng Yu; Wang Ciye; Wang Liuyi; Wang Qianyi; Xiang Binxuan; Xiao Yanning; Zhang Yayi), 313.5538.
2. Spain (Txell Ferrer Caset; Marina Garcia Polo; Liou Luis Valette; Merixell Mas Pujadas; Alisa Ozhogina Ozhogin; Paula Ramirez Ibanez; Iris Tio Casas; Blanca Toledano Lau), 287.1475.
3. Italy (Linda Cerruti; Marta Iacoacci; Sofia Mastroianni; Enrica Piccoli; Lucrezia Ruggiero; Isotta Sportelli; Giulia Vernice; Francesca Zunino), 277.8304.
4. France (Laelys Alvarez; Anastasia Bayandina; Ambre Esnault; Laura Gonzalez; Romane Lunel; Eve Planeix; Charlotte Tremble; Laura Tremble), 277.7925.

5. Canada (Scarlett Finn; Audrey Lamothe; Jonnie Newman; Raphaëlle Plante; Kenzie Pridell; Claire Scheffel; Jacqueline Simoneau; Florence Tremblay), 262.4808.

TABLE TENNIS

Monday

MEN

ROUND OF 16

Germany (Dimitrij Ovtcharov, Dang Qiu; Timo Boll), def. Canada (Edward Ly; Jeremy Hazin; Eugene Wang), 11-5, 8-11, 11-8, 11-5.

MATCH 1

Germany (Dang Qiu; Timo Boll), def. Canada (Jeremy Hazin; Eugene Wang), 11-5, 8-11, 11-8, 11-5, 12-10.

MATCH 2

Dimitrij Ovtcharov, Germany, def. Edward Ly, Canada, 11-4, 9-11, 11-6, 11-5.

MATCH 3

Timo Boll, Germany, def. Eugene Wang, Canada, 11-8, 11-5, 12-10.

VOLLEYBALL

MEN

Monday, August 5

Canada vs Spain 8 a.m.
Netherlands vs Italy 9:35 a.m.
Australia vs Greece 1 p.m.
Hungary vs United States 2:35 p.m.

WRESTLING

Monday

WOMEN

FREESTYLE 68KG

1/8 Finals

Amit Elor, United States, def. Buse Cavusoglu Tosun, Turkey, 5-0, 5-2, Points.
Wiktorija Choluj, Poland, def. Zhou Feng, China, 0-1, 10-2, Points.

Nisha Nisha, India, def. Tetiana Sovu Rizhko, Ukraine, 1-4, 5-0, Points.
Pak Sol Gum, North Korea, def. Irina Ringaci, Moldova, 4-2, 6-4, Points.

Koumba Larroque, France, def. Tayla Tuahine Ford, New Zealand, 4-0, 2-0, Points.
Blessing Oborududu, Nigeria, def. Linda Morais, Canada, 0-2, 8-0, Points.

Canadian artistic swimming team sits seventh after first event at Games

Well-drilled squad looks to improve on Tokyo's sixth-place finish with free routine, acrobatic program still to come

ROBYN DOOLITTLE PARIS



The Canadian women's artistic swimming team performs its technical routine on Monday which included elements such as an acrobatic launch out of the water and multiple 'hybrids,' where athletes are upside down and below the surface for a prolonged period of time. QUINN ROONEY/GETTY IMAGES

Imagine running a 20-second sprint, upside down, without being able to breathe.

Now take a single breath – while smiling – and do it again.

"It's never easy. Every time you're in – you feel it in your chest," said Canadian synchronized swimmer Kenzie Priddell. "We're human beings. Of course, we want to be breathing, but it's really about mental focus. You have to just zone out any physical feelings and connect with your team and the moment."

That's what she did Monday night, when the Canadian artistic swimming team made its Olympic debut at the aquatic centre in Paris. (Synchronized swimming was renamed artistic swimming in 2017.)

Coming off a sixth-place finish in Tokyo, the Canadians were in seventh at the end of the technical event. They will perform twice more this week – the free routine is on Tuesday and the acrobatic program is on Wednesday – with each score being cumulative.

In the technical routine, teams perform a series of elements, including an acrobatic stunt where a swimmer is launched out of the water, as well as multiple "hybrids," where athletes are upside down and underwater for a prolonged period of time, while performing rapid changes of leg positions, splits, and rotations.

"The first thing that's marked is the amount of your body that's out of the water," explained Kerri Morgan, Canada's chief sport officer for artistic swimming. "Then it's the angle of the leg. The extension. The timing. How well synchronized we are with each

“We do so many repetitions, we couldn't be more prepared.

SCARLETT FINN
CANADIAN ARTISTIC SWIMMER

other and your overall performance of the element.”

Teams refine these elements through constant repetition, video review and coaches positioned around the pool to look for subtle adjustments. The swimmers also do weight training, cardio, as well as flexibility work and train with outside coaches, such as gymnastics specialists, for help with the acro flips.

"One of our coaches is an aerial-ski coach. He comes in to help with movements in the air," Morgan said.

Decades ago, swimmers might have been underwater for as long as a minute while performing hybrids, but the sport has moved in a safer direction, she said. Now,

hybrids are often in the 20-second range. This is challenging in its own right, but the real difficulty comes from the fact that athletes must perform many hybrids in a row for a nearly three-minute program, with only a couple of breaths in between.

"And in our sport you're marked by your facial expressions and artistic impression. So, when you come up for that breath, you have to look good when you do it," she said. "You can't look like you're taking a bite of a big hamburger."

Canadian swimmer Scarlett Finn – who, like six of Canada's eight artistic-team members, is at her first Olympics – said they start learning to hold their breath as kids. Every year, the amount of

time underwater gets longer and longer. On the national team, they practice five or six days a week.

"We do so many repetitions, we couldn't be more prepared," the 22-year-old said. So when their chests might start screaming for air, they know their bodies can handle it.

For Priddell, the strategy is to just not think about the lack of oxygen. Instead, she says she shifts her mind to focus on the counts, her arm and leg placement, where her teammates are.

"You really just need to calm down and keep your mind as calm as you can," she said. "That's, I think, how we push past the not-being-able-to-breathe part."

Kelly: Among Olympians, Canadian women have met – and surpassed – gender parity

FROM B10

It's so commonplace that the "you get 'em, girl" ethos of the past has become jejune in Canadian Olympic circles. It now feels too much like piling on the men, who are – bless them – trying their best.

When asked about it Monday, swimmer Kylie Masse (five medals over three Olympics) began backstroking away from the question so fast that it's too bad Omega wasn't there to time it.

Stuck in the middle of a long answer about how she's part of one big gender-blind family, she said, "Right now, it feels like women are at the forefront. And they are."

Ms. Masse pointed out that this sort of thing "ebbs and flows," so she didn't want to seem too tri-

umphal. Some day, the men may be driving the Olympic bus again.

But she didn't sound very convincing – or convinced. Over her three Olympics, Ms. Masse has watched her female teammates amass 17 medals for Canada. This country's swimming men have three over the same span.

There's the law of averages, and then there's what you've seen with your own eyes, and you're bound to trust one over the other.

Not that there's such a thing as a bad medal. Canada loves them all equally.

But since it's just us talking here, let's be honest: There is something indescribably charming about watching Ms. McIntosh, all long limbs and wide eyes absolutely dominating the rest of the world. Putting a Phelpsian, Spitzian, Ledecykian whipping

on the very best. And showing nothing more than that shy grin she has.

No woo-hoo'ing or fist pumping from Canada. We beat you fair and square and then offer you a hand up. And if CNN would like to hear about it, they can get in line.

It's like the whole world showed up and said, "Send out your best to fight our best," and Canada looked around and said, "Yeah, we've got this kid over here. I don't think she's finished high school yet, but I would not upset her if I was you."

From Bobby Clarke to Donovan Bailey to Summer McIntosh – that's 50 years of Canadian sports history (and history, full stop) in three people.

We shouldn't always count on women to save us. It's unfair. They seem to enjoy it, but it's a lot

of pressure. Eventually, men will have to take their turn.

Every Summer Olympics, you wait for that to happen – and it doesn't. In Tokyo, women won three-quarters of the medals. Roughly the same in Rio. They're on pace to put up a similar percentage here.

It's like that shorthand you have with your spouse where you just know who's going to be driving. That person heads straight for the driver's-side door.

When it's time for the Summer Games, Canada's women are taking the keys out of their pockets as they head to the airport. Directions neither required nor appreciated. They know where they're going.

Progress has been achieved when you no longer have to tell people you're making progress. On the women-in-sports file,

there's still work to be done to even the scale. But not at the Olympics.

We don't have to talk about parity any more. That's an old idea. We have reached and surpassed it. The result is a team that pushes not just our quality, but our values, out into the world. Every time another Canadian woman gets up on a podium here, she is making a statement on all our behalves.

That sort of thing is the reason we pay for all the programs that produce all the athletes, only a few of whom are good enough to be here. The ones who make it this far do more good work advertising what Canada is all about in three weeks than any other government program could manage in three years.

They are the best of us, representing every single one of us.

Biles caps Paris Olympics 'Redemption Tour' with one last medal

WILL GRAVES PARIS

The "Redemption Tour" did not end with a golden encore for Simone Biles.

By the time she entered Bercy Arena for the beam and floor exercise finals on Monday, she was drained. Mentally. Physically. All of it.

It's what this event does. What this sport does.

No one knows that better than the 27-year-old who has spent the past decade relentlessly propelling gymnastics – both competitively and culturally – forward.

So when Biles hopped off balance beam to miss out on one medal, then stepped out of bounds twice during her floor routine to finish second in her signature event for the first time in memory, she shrugged.

Gymnastics happens. Even to the greats. Even to the GOAT.

The woman who didn't think she'd even be here a couple of years ago will leave Paris – and perhaps her final Olympics – with three golds and a silver and something perhaps even more valuable: peace.

"I accomplished way more than my wildest dreams, not just



Silver medalist Simone Biles, left, and bronze medalist Jordan Chiles of the United States, right, bow to gold medalist Rebeca Andrade, of Brazil, during the medal ceremony for the women's individual floor finals at the Summer Olympics on Monday. ABBIE PARR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

at this Olympics, but in the sport," the 11-time Olympic medalist said. "So I can't be mad at the performances. ... Competing then walking away with four medals. I'm not mad about it."

Biles certainly didn't look mad during the awards ceremony after the floor exercise – the first one of her career at a major competition that ended with her looking up at someone else.

Instead, she and good friend

and bronze medalist Jordan Chiles bowed to Rebeca Andrade, the Brazilian who has spent the past three years as the best gymnast in the world not named Biles.

"It was just the right thing to do," Biles said. "She's queen."

Then the three Black women posed together on the podium four days after Biles, Andrade and Sunisa Lee, who is Hmong-American, stood in the same

spot after the all-around. Their collective success is symbolic of a sport that is becoming more diverse and more inclusive at the highest level, led by someone who still describes herself as "Simone Biles from Spring, Texas, who flips."

For a long time, the flipping is what separated Biles from everyone else. Her routines are packed with so much difficulty that a wobble here or a step out of bounds there ultimately hasn't mattered.

It did in what could be the final routine of her career. Both-ered perhaps by a left calf injury she aggravated during qualifying last week, Biles wasn't at her best during a 75-second set that features music from pop icons Taylor Swift and Beyonce and the hardest tumbling passes ever done by a woman.

"I'm not very upset or anything about my performance at the Olympics," Biles said. "I'm happy, proud and even more excited that it's over."

Whether it's fully over, she's not saying. Though Chiles may have offered a hint as they talked to reporters afterward, with Chiles leaning over and saying under her breath "I'm going to miss you man."

So will gymnastics. The Olympics too.

Biles's 11 career medals at the Games (seven gold, two silver, two bronze) ties Czechoslovakia's Vera Caslavskaja for the second-most by a female gymnast in Olympic history.

A chance at making it a dozen ended earlier Monday when Biles fell during the beam final, finishing fifth. She was hardly the only one. Four of the finalists came off during their routines, which were done in a quiet arena that is typically a wall of sound during competition.

Not this time after the International Gymnastics Federation had the in-house DJ hit pause during event finals, which Biles said made it "really weird and awkward."

The silence and intermittent shushing didn't bother Italy's Alice D'Amato, who finished off a breakout Games for the Italians – silver medalists in the team competition – by putting together a steady set that seemed immune to the pressure or the moment. Zhou Yaqin of China earned silver with a 14.100, just ahead of bronze medalist Manila Esposito of Italy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympics feel incomplete without big bad Russia

Without the sporting world's best antagonist there is something missing in Paris

CATHAL KELLY

OPINION

PARIS

As part of the Olympics' ongoing effort to contain Russia as a chaotic sporting force, they've come up with a new name for its competitors: AIN. That's French for "individual neutral athletes."

It used to be ROC, which stood for Russian Olympic Committee, but no one was supposed to say the full name out loud. Just "ROC." That was part of the punishment. Announcers said it anyway. All the time. The Russians were obviously Russian.

In Paris, not so much. The AIN are more Belarusian than Russian, and it's difficult to tell them apart.

On an alphabetic list of the countries here, the International Olympic Committee slots the AIN last. They are not included on any official medal table. Not that they're winning much. It took them a week to win their first gold.

They don't have an anthem. The IOC went so far as to write them a song. It sounds like a dull copy of the opening scroll of *Dur Wars*. Back in Tokyo, they had a lovely section of Tchaikovsky.

Tokyo was the salad days for Russia as the bad boy (and girl) of the contemporary Games. While out on Olympic parole, they could be found swaggering all over the joint.

Nobody was having a good time at that sweltering COVID-19 event, but Russia was. Despite being banned, it finished fifth in the medal standings. Neat trick.

After years spent trying to coax Russia back into the member-in-good-standing column, the IOC gave up after the invasion of Ukraine. Russian athletes used to get a more or less blanket pass as long as they were able to show they'd never been caught doping. Now they must swear oaths and be invited.

More important, Russia is much less likely to allow its athletes to attend. It has started pay-

ing them to skip the Games.

Vladimir Putin is planning his own mini-Olympics a month after the real one. Maybe he'll invite Iran and North Korea and turn it into an autocratic jamboree. Sounds like a blast.

All to say that this sporting rupture between Russia and the rest of the world is starting to look like a permanent break.

Is it terrible to say I miss them?

It was wrong-headed to punish them as the IOC did in the first place. If you want them out, kick them out. Otherwise, just let them in. The Olympics is about sporting honour, not separating the good from the bad.

Russia brought something crucial to the mix: villainy. Without antagonists, the protagonists have nothing to overcome but their own limitations - which sounds dangerously close to therapy.

Without someone to beat, the beating doesn't mean much.

Try watching a TV show where everybody's nice. They only made one of them. It's called *Sesame Street*, and you gave up on it a while ago.

The quality of the AINs who are here is off, and I'm not talking athletically. They seem to have been selected for their winsomeness. All their quotes sound like something out of Steinbeck.

"No asks at all," AIN trampolinist Anzhela Bladtceva told reporters here when someone brought up the war. "Only positive questions. No one is saying bad things."

Bladtceva is knee-high to someone who is knee-high to a grasshopper. This is weaponized cuteness. What is Olympic Russia without truculence? It has no purpose.

Back in Tokyo, they were saying things like, "If Russia has no flag, we will be the flag" - rugby player Alena Tiron.

Now they're slinking around hoping not to get buttonholed into a conversation about exporting long-range missiles to Kyiv. It's unbecoming.

Maybe people should start saying some bad things to them. No problem ever got solved by ignoring it. If Russia felt something more than impersonal bureaucratic pressure, that might

make an impression. The AINs might even take it home and spread word of it around.

As it stands, this will be the first Olympics with no memory of a Russian doing something notable. No feats, no quotes, no fights. The Paris Games are not even being shown on Russian television.

The take-away: You can do an Olympics without Russia, but you shouldn't.

You can and should do every other sort of sport without them. If my neighbour was constantly popping off about how he'd like to wipe me out, I wouldn't invite him to my barbecue. That's what Western pro sports are doing about Russia. But the Olympics is a different case.

This event is based in two connected ideas: that we can all get together without fighting, and that once that happens, we will fight.

Without someone to beat, the beating doesn't mean much. It's great for the individual athletes, but despite what the IOC is always saying, this isn't about them. The Olympics is a game of politics played by nation states.

No country that sees itself as a player in the world can afford to fail here. To do so steadily would chip away at national self-confidence. Even Canada - a country that couldn't care less about excellence - finally accepted that.

Imagine if America was no longer among the top three on the medal table? That would be a measurable sign of decline. Rather than any built-in advantage, that is why America wins.

In order for those wins to pre-occupy a populace, some must be seen to come at the expense of an enemy. If there is no enemy, an enemy will be created.

Thanks to Beijing's adventures in creative pharmacology, you can see people here trying to turn China into the new Russia. But that won't work. China doesn't play the game. It won't pick a fight. It has no sense of theatre.

Russia does - always will. It can turn any Olympics into the final act of a Chekhov play, when the gun starts getting waved around.

The Olympics does not feel right without them. The longer it goes on like this - with one of the leading cast members skipping the performance - the greater the risk of the Olympics beginning to slowly unravel.

BLUE JAYS' GUERRERO JR. CARRIES TORRID STRETCH INTO O'S SERIES

Toronto Blue Jays first baseman Vladimir Guerrero Jr. aims to extend his 17-game hit Tuesday night in the opener of a three-game series against the visiting Baltimore Orioles.

Guerrero's hitting prowess has not been enough to carry the new-look Blue Jays. They completed a 2-5 road trip with a 4-3, 10-inning loss to the New York Yankees on Sunday.

Guerrero was 1-for-5 on Sunday with a double. He is batting .500 (32-for-64) during the streak that started July 14. He has nine home runs, 10 doubles and 18 RBIs in that span, but the team has an 8-9 record.

"He's at that point where he gets who he is," Toronto manag-

er John Schneider said. "Which is, I think, the last piece of a great player becoming a great player."

Baltimore won three of four from Toronto last week before splitting a four-game series with the Cleveland Guardians to start a 10-game road trip.

Guerrero has had to carry even more of Toronto's offensive load with the departure of Justin Turner at the trade deadline in one of several deals made by the team.

He is batting .316 with 22 homers and 72 RBIs for the season.

"At the end of the day, it's all confidence," Guerrero said. "Of course, you've got to believe in

your talent, but if I feel like I have my confidence, I'm 100 per cent, I know I'm going to be okay."

"He has goals that he sets for himself every single year, obviously, for the team and for himself," Schneider said. "And I think if he just goes out and does what he's doing, the last month or so, he'll probably reach those individually, albeit not what the team wanted to do."

Toronto is scheduled to start right-hander Chris Bassitt (8-10, 4.02 ERA) on Tuesday. Baltimore is scheduled to start right-hander Grayson Rodriguez (13-4, 3.86).

REUTERS

Sports in brief

CANADA'S FUNG, ZHAO KNOCKED OUT OF NBO TORONTO QUALIFYING

Canadians Stacey Fung and Carol Zhao won't reach the National Bank Open main draw. Fung, 27, from Vancouver, was knocked out in the second round of women's singles qualifying with a 6-1, 6-3 loss to top qualifier Katie Volynets of the United States on Monday at Sobey's Stadium. Zhao of Richmond Hill, Ont., dropped a 6-1, 6-0 decision to Ashlyn Krueger of the United States. The 29-year-old Zhao defeated Kristina Mladenovic of France 7-5, 6-1 in the first round on Sunday after replacing Hailey Baptiste as an alternate. Baptiste withdrew due to travel issues. Bianca Andreescu of Mississauga, Leylah Fernandez of Laval, Que., Vancouver's Rebecca Marino, and Toronto's Marina Stakusic are already in the NBO main draw, which begins Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SHAPOVALOV RETAINS RANKING POINTS, PRIZE MONEY AFTER DQ

Canada's Denis Shapovalov will retain his ranking points and prize money after appealing his disqualification from the quarter-finals of the Mubadala Citi DC Open. Shapovalov lost his first set 7-6 (5) in a match against American Ben Shelton on Friday and trailed 6-3 in a tiebreaker in the second set when he threw his racquet to the court and began shouting at a fan in the stands. As Shelton was about to serve for triple match point, the 25-year-old Shapovalov again argued with a fan. He was given an unsportsmanlike-conduct code violation by the umpire, who then summoned a supervisor. The ATP announced Monday that the loss of ranking points and prize money, which is automatically applied when a player defaults, was a disproportionate penalty for Shapovalov's actions. He will, however, have to pay a US\$36,400 fine for the violation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANADA WINS OPENING GAME AT CONCACAF TOURNAMENT

ALAJUELA, COSTA RICA Isabella Lanzillotta's 43rd-minute goal lifted Canada to a 1-0 victory over Puerto Rico in its opening match Monday at the CONCACAF Girls' U-15 Championship. The goal by the midfielder from Mississauga, was assisted by Hamilton's Olivia Tapping. The young Canadians face El Salvador on Tuesday and Mexico on Thursday in Group B play. The top two teams from Group A, which features the U.S., host Costa Rica, Haiti and Jamaica, and Group B advance to Friday's semi-finals. The fifth edition of the tournament, which runs through Aug. 11, features a record 34 CONCACAF teams. The competition is split between three host countries with Costa Rica staging League A and Trinidad and Tobago and Aruba hosting League B and C, respectively. Monday's win improved Canada's record at the U15 tournament to 17-4-2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DEATHS



JOHN JOSEPH POPELAS
1925 - 2024

Passed away peacefully, at St. Joseph's Health Centre, Toronto, on Monday, July 29th, at the wonderful age of 98. Beloved husband of Joan (2008, nee White). Loving father of Ken (Christine), Kathy, Jane (Harvey, 2001), Greg, Michelle (Grant, 2021), John (Noreen). Cherished grandfather of Celeste (2024) (Rob), Jessica (Mark), Kendra (George), Alexander (Joanna), Grace (Kathryn), Jack, Holden (Cassandra), Will, Ava (Sam), Louisa, Joseph, Mia and Leo. Adored great-grandfather of Paige, Luca, Ethan, Shawn, Brett and Annie.

John was born on November 5, 1925, in Budkovce, Czechoslovakia. John's father immigrated to Montreal in 1926. It was not until 1936 that John and his mother came to Montreal and his family was reunited. Shortly thereafter, his mother passed away. It was the nurturing and love of his mother's family in those early years in Czechoslovakia, that set his character and provided him the strength to make a life for himself in his new country. At 17 years old, John worked for Noorduyn Aviation in Montreal making the Harvard aircraft for the British Commonwealth. This led to his next job at Fleet Aircraft in Fort Erie, Ontario. There they made the wings for the Lancaster bomber planes. A hearing impairment kept John out of the war. After the war, John moved to Aylmer, Ontario to work on a tobacco farm.

Eventually John relocated to London, Ontario, and started working as a Lineman for Ontario Hydro. A company transfer brought John, Joan and the family to Kingsville, Ontario. During this time, he was elected to the Kingsville Public Utilities Commission where he served for 20 years. His involvement in that role led him to become a member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association. John retired from Ontario Hydro after 29 years of service.

Charitable work came naturally to John. He was a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, involved in countless Goodfellows' food drives, canvassed for the Ontario March of Dimes, drove cancer patients to treatment appointments and was a founding member of the legendary Wild Game Dinner. Retirement afforded John the time for two of his passions, fishing and golfing. John was a long-term member and past Board member of the Kingsville Golf and Country Club where he made many friendships that spanned over 35 years and golfed until the age of 95. In addition to being very involved with his church, community and charitable works, nothing brought more joy to him than spending time with his family. Raising six children and his love for sports led seamlessly into coaching minor league hockey and baseball for many years. John was a master storyteller, keeping us all engaged and entertained with stories from his past, whether they were from his early upbringing in Czechoslovakia, his adolescent years in Montreal or his time on the tobacco farm in Aylmer where he met his true love, Joan.

Friends are invited to share their memories of John with his family at Kendrick Funeral Home, Kingsville, ON, on Wednesday, August 7th, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. John de Brebeuf Catholic Church, Kingsville, ON, on Thursday, August 8th, at 11:00 a.m. The family would like to thank the staff of St. Joseph's Health Centre for their kind and dedicated care during his stay. Those wishing to donate in memory of John can make a donation to the charity of their choice.

DEBORAH "DEBBIE" VIGODA October 21, 1928 - August 3, 2024

In her 96th year. Loving mother of Alan (Lynn Moran) and Marcy (Stephen Perry). Proud grandmother of Wesley, Dylan, Maya, Daniel and Joshua; and great-grandmother of Lucy, Alwyn, Abby and Zev. Predeceased by her beloved husband, Morris "Moe"; and brother, Milton Shulman. Well respected and much loved in the community. Debby was supportive and generous with her experience and guidance with those working to make it a better place. Funeral at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto, at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. Interment at Holy Blossom Memorial Park, 66 Brimley Road, Toronto. Shiva at The Dunfield Residence, 77 Dunfield Avenue, Toronto. Memorial donations can be made to Ontario Brain Injury Association (obia.ca/online-donation/) or to Holy Blossom Temple Education Fund (holyblossom.org/donate/).

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TUESDAY

ABEZIZ, Aida - 10:30 Chapel.
VIGODA, Deborah - 11:00 Holy Blossom Temple.
EISEN, Jackie - 12:30 Chapel.

WEDNESDAY

GOULD, Beatrice - 10:30 Chapel.

THURSDAY

NASH, Harvey - 1:00 Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

SHIVA

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MARMER, Jack -
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GAIL LUMET BUCKLEY

AUTHOR, 86

WRITER TAPPED INTO
BLACK HISTORY
THROUGH HER FAMILY

Gail Lumet Buckley said research into her ancestors' artifacts for 1986's *The Hornes: An American Family* 'unfolded like a detective story.' REBECCA SMEYNE/NYT

The disparate paper fragments in her mother's archives served as the inspiration for a pair of books chronicling her lineage back six generations

RICHARD SANDOMIR

Gail Lumet Buckley, who rather than follow her mother, Lena Horne, into show business, wrote two multigenerational books about their ambitious Black middle-class family, died July 18 at her home in Santa Monica, Calif. She was 86.

Her daughter Jenny Lumet, a screenwriter and film and television producer, said the cause was heart failure.

Ms. Buckley was inspired to chronicle her family history in the early 1980s when her mother asked her to store an old trunk in her basement. It had belonged to Ms. Horne's father, Edwin Jr., known as Teddy, and contained hundreds of artifacts that had belonged to relatives dating back six generations to Sinai Reynolds, who had been born into slavery around 1777 and who, in 1859, bought her freedom and that of members of her family.

"There were photographs, letters, bills, notes," Ms. Buckley told *The New York Times* during a joint interview with her mother in 1986, as well as "speakeasy tickets, gambling receipts, college diplomas."

Those disparate paper fragments of history helped her structure *The Hornes: An American Family* (1986).

"It all unfolded like a detective story — here is what was happening in 1875; there's what went on in 1895," she told the *Los Angeles Times* when the book was published. "And then to read Black American history, as I did extensively, and put that on top of it; that's an exciting experience."

She opened her story after the Revolutionary War and carried it through the Civil War, Reconstruction and the 20th century, when her mother became a star, beginning an incandescent career in the Cotton Club chorus in New York as a teenager in the 1930s.

The book's main characters, in addition to Ms. Horne, include Moses Calloun, a house slave owned by the Calhoun family who, after being freed, became a wealthy businessperson in Atlanta; and his daughter Cora, a feminist, suffragist and college graduate who was also a grandmother of Lena Horne's and who helped raise her.

Cora's husband, Edwin Horne Sr., was a journalist in Indiana who, after moving with Cora to New York to escape racism, became active in politics and worked as a fire inspector.

"What is most significant about *The Hornes*," Christopher Lehmann-Haupt wrote in his review in *The New York Times*, "is that it is a history of the Black bourgeoisie, or that elite class of people that, according to Mrs. Buckley, originated with what were slaves of the house (as opposed to slaves of the field)

and came to be made up of a set of leading families who mirrored as best it could the elite of white society."

In 2016, 30 years after *The Hornes*, Ms. Buckley revisited her past with *The Black Calhouns: From Civil War to Civil Rights With One African American Family*. That book focused on historical events and political movements as they affected two branches of the family: one (whose patriarch was Moses) that remained in Atlanta and lived through Reconstruction and the rise of Jim Crow, and one that settled in New York and experienced the Harlem Renaissance.

Ms. Buckley wrote in her introduction that the book was part history — about "an atypical African American family that is also typically American" — and part memoir, starting with her birth in 1937.

She opened her story after the Revolutionary War and carried it through the Civil War, Reconstruction and the 20th century, when her mother became a star in show business, beginning an incandescent career in the Cotton Club chorus in New York as a teenager in the 1930s.

"Today, however, it is important to let people know 'what I am,' she wrote. "I identify myself as African American to let others know that I am one of America's historical stepchildren. The quality of African American life, like that of all stepchildren, depends on the spiritual, philosophical and political character of the stepparent and stepsiblings."

Gail Horne Jones was born Dec. 21, 1937, in Pittsburgh and grew up in New York and Los Angeles. Her mother was briefly married to Gail's father, Louis Jordan Jones, who owned funeral homes and published a magazine for the U.S. Post Office. They divorced when Gail was a baby. In 1947, Ms. Horne married Lennie Hayton, a white composer, conductor and arranger.

Ms. Buckley earned a bachelor's degree from Radcliffe College in Massachusetts in 1959. After working in Paris as an intern at Marie Claire magazine, she returned to the United States and became a counsellor with the National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students, advising high-school students about available scholarships. In 1962, she was hired at *Life* magazine, where she

clipped newspaper and wire-service articles.

In 1963, she was introduced to film and television director Sidney Lumet through James Lipton, a friend of her mother and stepfather (who was later known as the ultrinquisitive host of the TV series *Inside the Actors Studio*). She and Mr. Lumet married that year.

They divorced after 14 years. "Sidney and I were not on the same wavelength, religiously or politically," she told the *Los Angeles Times* in 1986.

After a long break during her marriage to raise her daughters, Ms. Buckley turned to freelance writing, contributing articles to *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Daily News* of New York and *Vogue*.

In 2001, she published *American Patriots: The Story of Blacks in the Military From the Revolution to Desert Storm*, for which she spent more than a decade doing research, which included interviewing Black veterans. One of those who inspired her was a great-uncle, Errol Horne, whose photograph, in his First World War lieutenant's uniform, had fascinated her when she was a child.

"I had always been told he chased Pancho Villa into Mexico," she told *The Daily News* in 2001. "And he did."

She also wrote about the all-Black 369th Infantry Regiment — known as the Harlem Hellfighters — which fought with the French during the First World War.

U.S. president Woodrow Wilson "gave the 369th to the desperate French because he did not want Blacks fighting for America," Ms. Buckley wrote. The president, she added, "did not want the world to learn about Black heroism — even though the first American soldiers to receive the Croix de Guerre, Sergeant Henry Johnson and Private Needham Roberts, belonged to the 369th."

In 2002, Ms. Buckley received the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award for *American Patriots*.

Ms. Buckley's most recent book, *Radical Sanctity: Race and Radical Women in the American Catholic Church* (2023), is about Katharine Drexel, the heiress canonized by Pope John Paul II, and three others, Dorothy Day, Catherine de Hueck Doherty and Sister Thea Bowman, who were declared servants of God by the Catholic Church, a step on the road to possible canonization.

In addition to her daughter Jenny, Ms. Buckley leaves another daughter, Amy Lumet, a film producer who also works in animal rescue, and two grandchildren. Her 38-year marriage to journalist Kevin Buckley ended with his death in 2021. Her brother, known as Teddy, died in 1970.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

LIVES LIVED

OLGA PICCININ McCORMACK

Mother.
Volunteer.
Lexicologist.
Philanthropist.

Born April 1, 1930, in Coppercliff, Ont.; died Nov. 22, 2023, in Montreal, of colon cancer; aged 93.

Olga Piccinin's parents were immigrants from Padua de Pordenone in Northern Italy, her father a bricklayer and her mother a homemaker. The family moved often around Canada as construction projects developed in the 1930s and 40s, finally settling in Shawinigan, Que. Olga had two siblings, learned Italian as a first language, then French and English.

Trained as a secretary in high school, she worked for eight years at Belgo Pulp and Paper in Shawinigan. She was crowned "Miss Belgo" in 1953.

A year later, she met Eamonn McCormack playing badminton at the Shawinigan Racquet Club. He was an engineer from Mullinalaghta, Ireland, and was drawn to her beauty, svelte figure and positive outlook on all aspects of life. Olga wore those rose-coloured glasses throughout her life.

At the time of their marriage in 1957, it was illegal for a married woman in Ireland to work and even though the couple lived in Canada, Eamonn proudly abided by the ideology. Olga happily stayed home to raise their two daughters, Deirdre and Eileen.

Olga was organized and ambitious and for the next 50 years she sought intellectual fulfilment and built social connections through a variety of volunteer roles in the church and township of St. Bruno de Montarville where the family settled after Eamonn's engineering posts in La Tuque, Que., and Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

As volunteer secretary for St. Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Parish in St. Bruno, Olga spent 30 hours a week attending to church duties until she was 89 years old. She became a resource to friends, parishioners, priests and bishops. She organized the Shawinigan High School reunions right up until the 65-year anniversary in 2012. She was a lifelong Liberal supporter, member, convention participant, campaigning door-knocker and voter. She was well known in the party leadership as an energetic, tireless contributor. She cherished cards and letters from many prime ministers including those she knew from her Shawinigan childhood and high-school days. (When then-prime-minister Jean Chrétien met her red-headed granddaughter, he congratulated Olga: "*Felicitations Olga, elle est déjà rouge!*", a commentary on Shannon's built-in Liberal branding.) For a lifetime of volunteerism in the church and community Olga received numerous awards, including the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee medal.

Olga's love of words and the English language led to an obsession with proper grammar. She was not an avid reader of novels; she preferred an intense study and dissection of the English language via hunting out and openly, but politely, correcting written articles. She wrote to newspapers to correct mistakes and spelling errors often. In casual conversation she spelled out homonyms. She was especially sensitive to verb conjugation and correct sentence expansion with conjunctions and prepositions ("Taller than I am" not "taller than me"). She abhorred the use of redundant phrases ("these ones") and the indiscriminate and widespread misuse of the apostrophe. She always won at Scrabble, completed the *Montreal Gazette's* crossword daily for more than 40 years and wrote study guides for herself and her family. Olga's children and grown grandchildren still feel lucky and grateful for all the language instruction.

Her involvement in the church and town led to thousands of local and provincial connections and an associated generous spirit. She could whip out a chequebook faster than you could say Jack Robinson. Olga donated to hundreds of charitable causes every year, prompting numerous Canada Revenue Agency audits.

Olga was a rare and remarkable woman who led an important wide-reaching life.

Eileen McCormack is Olga's daughter.



Olga Piccinin McCormack

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