

Former CBSA official pressed to give false testimony, MPs told

Public servant tied to ArriveCan file says she was suspended for refusal to implicate onetime bosses

BILL CURRY
DEPUTY OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF
OTTAWA

A former border agency official who handled ArriveCan contracting files said she's been suspended as a form of retribution by senior managers because she refused to give false testimony as part of an internal

probe into alleged contracting misconduct.

The border agency is conducting an internal investigation into allegations of cozy ties between private contractors and public servants involved in government contracting. Diane Daly told a House committee on Wednesday that her interview earlier this year as part of that probe was hostile and she was pressed to pin blame

on people who had done nothing wrong. "I'm here to tell the truth, but I'm very concerned that if I tell the truth here, I'm going to lose my job," Ms. Daly said, her hands shaking at times as she read from written notes.

Ms. Daly said she's been a public servant for nearly 20 years, but it was her first time speaking to a parliamentary committee. ■ ARRIVECAN, A15

Fears of fresh violence in U.K. ease as locals fill streets in counterprotest

MEGAN SPECIA
STEPHEN CASTLE

Thousands of police officers fanned out across Britain on Wednesday amid fears that protests planned by far-right groups would descend into fresh violence after days of anti-immigrant riots shocked the country. But by late evening, large anti-immigration protests had not materialized and only a handful of arrests had been made.

Instead, thousands of anti-racism protesters gathered in cities across the country, including Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool and London. Some of those demonstrations were close to places that had been identified as potential targets for rioters. And as the summer evening that many had feared could turn violent made way for the night, many expressed relief that the worries of wide-scale violence had not been realized.

More than a dozen towns and cities across Britain experienced violent unrest over the past week, fuelled in part by far-right agitators and an online disinformation campaign intent on creating disorder after a deadly knife attack on a children's dance class in northwestern England.

Much of the misinformation after the attack in Southport claimed that the teenage suspect — who was born in Britain — was an asylum seeker. ■ BRITAIN, A4

Two former world juniors in sex-assault case sign with Russian league

MARTY KLINKENBERG

Two former members of the Canadian World Junior hockey team who are awaiting trial on sexual-assault charges have signed one-year contracts to play in the Russian-based Kontinental Hockey League.

Michael McLeod and Dillon Dubé were among five players charged with sexual assault in connection with an alleged group attack of a young woman after a gala event staged in London, Ont., to celebrate members of Canada's national junior team. Both have denied the allegations, as have three of their former teammates.

Mr. McLeod, who was most recently a centre for the New Jersey Devils, is now listed on the roster of Barys Astana, the KHL's lone franchise in Kazakhstan. Mr. McLeod is 26 and from Mississauga.

Mr. Dubé is listed on the roster for Dinamo Minsk of Belarus. He is from Golden, B.C., and played forward for the Calgary Flames for six seasons. ■ HOCKEY, A15

PARIS 2024

THE JUMP OF HER LIFE

Bouncing back from personal hardship, Alysha Newman achieves dream of becoming the first Canadian woman to win a medal in pole vault ■ B10



Alysha Newman reacts during the women's pole-vault final at Stade de France on Wednesday. Ms. Newman cleared 4.85 metres on her second attempt to claim bronze. CAMERON SPENCER/GETTY IMAGES

TRACK De Grasse reveals injury as he fails to reach another final ■ B11

SWIMMING Emma Finlin is ready to go with the flow in marathon event ■ B14

Demystifying the Games' stick-thumping, bell-ringing new rituals

PAUL WALDIE PARIS

Anyone watching the Olympics might be confused about a couple of innovations Paris 2024 organizers have introduced, like what's up with the stick thumping and why do the winners in track and field ring a giant bell? Let's start with the stick.

At the start of every event, someone emerges with a giant club and thumps it three times on the ground. It's a dramatic flourish that officials have borrowed from the ancient days of French theatre, when performances opened with *trois coups* of a piece of wood, which is also known as a brigadier.

"We wanted to use a tradition in the sports world but also in the drama world,"

said Tony Estanguet, head of the Paris 2024 organizing committee.

Some scholars say the ritual has religious overtones, with the three knocks representing the Holy Trinity. But others argue it is just a handy way to let everyone know that the play is about to begin.

Not just anyone gets to wield the big stick. ■ INNOVATIONS, A15

TORONTO POLICE

Officer found guilty of misconduct, neglect of duty in crash probe ■ A3

EUROPE

Taylor Swift concerts in Austria cancelled after terror attack foiled ■ A4

SECRET CANADA

Explore our national database of freedom of information requests SecretCanada.com

INSIDE

ABDULLAH AL IMRAN	A11
CHRIS MICHAEL	A11
KONRAD YAKABUSKI	A11
LOUI ANASTASOPOULOS	B4
ANNE MICHÈLE MEGGS	B4
CATHAL KELLY	B10

A-SECTION

FOLIO	A8-9
EDITORIAL & LETTERS	A10
OPINION	A11
LIFE & ARTS	A12
FIRST PERSON	A13
WEATHER & PUZZLES	A14

B-SECTION

REPORT ON BUSINESS	B1
OPINION & ANALYSIS	B4
GLOBE INVESTOR	B7
SPORTS	B10
COMICS	B12
OBITUARIES	B16

PODCAST

An expert on Mideast security explains how the region's powers are weighing next steps
tgam.ca/TheDecibel



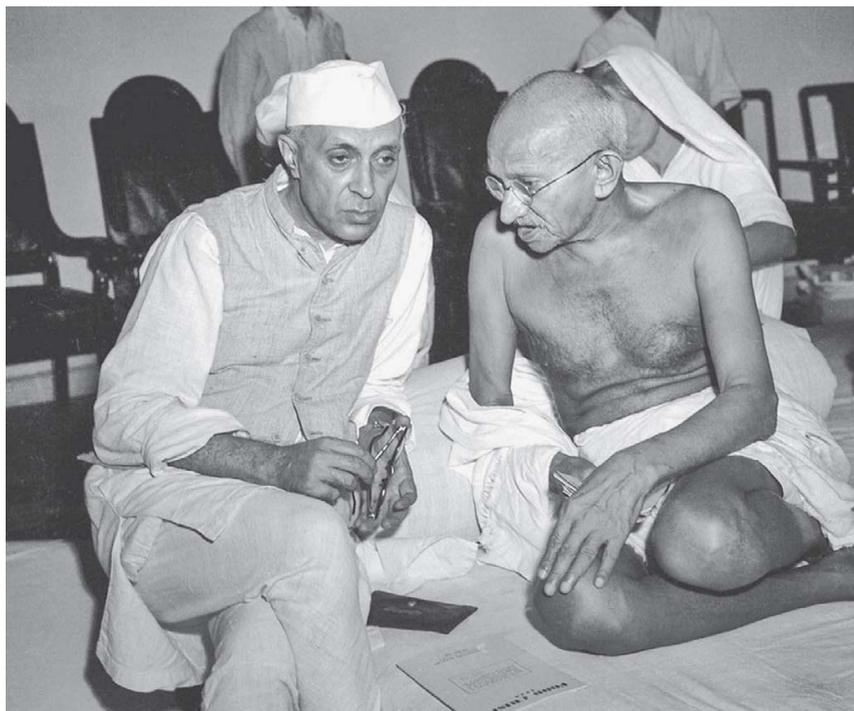
THE GLOBE'S SECUREDROP SERVICE PROVIDES A WAY TO SECURELY SHARE INFORMATION WITH OUR JOURNALISTS TGAM.CA/SECUREDROP

MON-FRI: \$5.00
SATURDAY: \$8.00
PRICES MAY BE HIGHER IN SOME AREAS



MOMENT IN TIME

AUG. 8, 1942 | FROM THE ARCHIVES



Jawaharlal Nehru, left, and Mahatma Gandhi discuss the Quit India concept in 1942.
UNIVERSAL IMAGES GROUP/GETTY IMAGES

GANDHI LAUNCHES THE QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

The Second World War was raging to the west, in Europe and Africa, and to the east, in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, when Mahatma Gandhi declared that India had had enough. Britain had unilaterally dragged India into the war – the final insult of almost a century of British rule. At a session of the All India Congress Committee, the executive council of the independence-minded Indian National Congress, Gandhi called for an immediate end to British rule and urged all Indians to engage in non-violent civil disobedience. The British responded by arresting the party's entire leadership, and the mass protests that followed saw

more than 100,000 people jailed. Historians dispute the movement's contribution to Indian independence, which took another five years to achieve, and Britain's prime minister at the time, Clement Attlee, said its influence on British policy was "minimal."

Certainly, with most of its leaders behind bars, the movement petered out over the course of a few months, but Gandhi took its lessons to heart. Still, he softened his stand on the use of non-violence, as British fighter pilots fought desperately to keep the Luftwaffe at bay, not wanting to lead India to freedom by the light of a burning Britain.

MASSIMO COMMANDUCCI (2019)

COLUMNISTS

KONRAD YAKABUSKI

OPINION



Kamala Harris takes a tougher path to winning critical Pennsylvania with Tim Walz pick ■ A11

ANNE MICHÈLE MEGGS

OPINION



Ottawa puts social cohesion at risk with its murky vision for immigration ■ B4

CATHAL KELLY

OPINION



Golf is on the outside looking in at Paris Games, both literally and figuratively ■ B10

CLARIFICATION

Monday and Wednesday Report on Business articles about Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program omitted some details on the rules for hiring low-wage workers in hospitality and retail when unemployment rates are 6 per cent and higher. Under such conditions, those industries can use the program to hire certain low-wage occupations.

Temperatures in Great Barrier Reef hit highest level in 400 years over past decade, study finds

SUMAN NAISHADHAM
WASHINGTON

Ocean temperatures in the Great Barrier Reef hit their highest level in 400 years over the past decade, according to researchers who warned that the reef likely won't survive if planetary warming isn't stopped.

During that time, between 2016 and 2024, the Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest coral-reef ecosystem and one of the most biodiverse, suffered mass coral bleaching events. That's when water temperatures get too hot and coral expel the algae that provide them with colour and food, and sometimes die. Earlier this year, aerial surveys of more than 300 reefs in the system off Australia's northeast coast found bleaching in shallow water areas spanning two-thirds of the reef, according to Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Researchers from Melbourne University and other universities in Australia, in a paper published Wednesday in the journal *Nature*, were able to compare recent ocean temperatures with historical ones by using coral skeleton samples from the Coral Sea to reconstruct sea-surface temperature data from 1618 to 1995. They coupled that with sea-surface temperature data



Benjamin Henley, the lead author of a collaborative paper by Australian universities released Wednesday, says the Great Barrier Reef's survival is in jeopardy 'if we don't divert from our current course.' SAM McNEIL/AP

from 1900 to 2024.

They observed largely stable temperatures before 1900, and steady warming from January to March from 1960 to 2024. And during five years of coral bleaching in the past decade – during 2016, 2017, 2020, 2022 and 2024 – temperatures in January and March were significantly higher than anything dating back to 1618, researchers found. They used climate models to attribute the warming rate after 1900 to human-caused climate change. The only other year nearly as warm as the mass bleaching

years of the past decade was 2004.

"The reef is in danger and if we don't divert from our current course, our generation will likely witness the demise of one of those great natural wonders," said Benjamin Henley, the study's lead author and a lecturer of sustainable urban management at the University of Melbourne. "If you put all of the evidence together ... heat extremes are occurring too often for those coral to effectively adapt and evolve."

ASSOCIATED PRESS



new
FALL
arrivals



ALSO IN
BLACK



GERRY WEBER

by
ELIZABETH SCHINDLER

www.gerryweber.online

ELIZABETH SCHINDLER
(416) 789-1919 – 1987 LESLIE ST

GERRY WEBER TORONTO
(647) 258-7727 – 1177 YONGE ST

GERRY WEBER BURLINGTON
(905) 681-0197 – 442 BRANT ST

Toronto officer found guilty of misconduct, neglect of duty

Hearing determines senior inspector interfered with an investigation into a crash involving her nephew that occurred outside her division

GREG MERCER

A senior Toronto police officer has been found guilty of professional misconduct and neglect of duty after a disciplinary hearing determined she interfered with an investigation into a single-vehicle crash involving her nephew more than two years ago.

Inspector Joyce Schertzer, a high-profile former homicide detective who was part of the criminal probe of former mayor Rob Ford, was accused of contravening the force's conflict-of-interest policy and preventing investigators from determining if alcohol was a factor in the May 1, 2022, collision.

The tribunal hearing officer, retired Ontario Provincial Police superintendent Lisa Taylor, said Insp. Schertzer inserted herself into the investigation and showed consistent "errors in judgment" as a superior officer responding to a call involving a family member – including failing to contact 9-1-1, letting her nephew leave after less than 10 minutes and allowing another officer to turn off his camera so they could have a private conversation.

"I find a fully informed citizen would be shocked at the actions and inactions of Insp. Schertzer," Ms. Taylor said in her decision. "I cannot fathom why the camera wouldn't have been left on."

Insp. Schertzer pleaded not guilty to all charges, and insisted she didn't try to influence the investigation into her nephew's crash. She was found guilty of one count of discreditable conduct and another count of neglect of duty, but not guilty of a third count of neglect of duty.

Throughout the ordeal, Insp. Schertzer



Body-camera footage shows Inspector Joyce Schertzer at the crash site in May, 2022.

has defended her decision to involve herself in the crash. In an interview with a Toronto police professional standards interviewer in 2022, she said, "I wasn't trying to circumvent anything. I wasn't trying to influence anyone. It's very important to me that you know that I have never, in my life, neglected duty."

The adjudicator rejected Insp. Schertzer's claim she was merely trying to advocate for her nephew as his aunt and not in any official capacity – saying her presence at the crash scene, as a senior officer, was a serious conflict of interest that would have influenced the actions of more junior constables.

Shortly after the crash, Insp. Schertzer's daughter, who is also a police officer, called and told her that the inspector's nephew, Calvin Dejak, had been in an accident. The inspector arranged for an officer from her unit to be dispatched, despite the crash having occurred in the catchment area for the neighbouring 14 Division – which prosecutor Scott Hutchison said circumvented the police's priority system, to the benefit of her family. By the time an officer had arrived, Insp.

Schertzer was already there, the tribunal heard, and Mr. Dejak was initially permitted to leave the scene. Insp. Schertzer told the hearing in June that she believed the Boulevard Club was within her division's boundaries at the time.

When Toronto police traffic investigators demanded that he return to the accident scene, Mr. Dejak was confronted by Constable Michael Clarke, who told Mr. Dejak, in an exchange captured on his body camera, "you're very fortunate that you have family members who have helped this go away," the tribunal heard.

Mr. Dejak, who crashed into a city-owned utility pole shortly before noon outside the Boulevard Club on Lake Shore Boulevard, had left his truck at the social club the previous evening because he'd been drinking, according to the evidence presented at the hearing. But he told the responding officer he'd only parked at the social club that morning to "go for a walk," the tribunal heard.

Ms. Taylor, the adjudicator, emphasized that while Mr. Dejak's statement may not have been honest, his actions were not the reason for the disciplinary hearing.

At the scene, Insp. Schertzer became actively involved in the investigation, and had a private conversation with the investigating officer – after which her nephew was advised he could leave, before any breath test could be administered, the tribunal heard. Staff Sergeant Matthew Routh, Const. Clarke's superior, told the tribunal in June that Insp. Schertzer's involvement deeply concerned him.

"In 25 years of policing, I've never seen an officer leave a division to go to another division to do a collision investigation," he said. "This is the only time I've ever seen that happen. It's just non-existent. That was enough to tell me that, okay, to some extent, there is obstruction here."

The tribunal will hand down its penalty on Oct. 28. Insp. Schertzer has the right to appeal the decision to the Ontario Civilian Police Commission. Her lawyer, Joanne Mulcahy, declined to comment.

Calgary water restrictions set for late August as tests reveal pipe issues

LISA JOHNSON CALGARY

Residents in Calgary and surrounding communities fresh off having to conserve water for weeks owing to a water-main break are soon going to have to do it all over again.

Mayor Jyoti Gondek announced Wednesday extended tests on more than 10 kilometres of pipe have revealed 16 more problem spots that need to be fixed.

Work on those sites is set to begin in about three weeks, on Aug. 28, and are expected to last one month.

Ms. Gondek said that means, as of Aug. 26, the city's 1.6 million residents and those in surrounding communities will be urged to conserve water again indoors while a sweeping ban on outdoor watering will resume.

"I understand how much this impacts your life," said Ms. Gondek, who said asking Calgarians to endure another round of repair was not easy for her.

"I know this is not the news that any of us wanted to hear. At the same time, I'm grateful that we have this important information that allows us to act in a manner that protects our water system against any potential breaks to everyone in the Calgary region."

Communities affected beyond city limits include Airdrie, Tsuut'ina Nation, Strathmore and Chestermere.

Calgarians were asked to reduce toilet flushes, loads of laundry and dishwashing after the water main ruptured on June 5.

Mandatory outdoor limits were being reduced in stages before Ms. Gondek's latest announcement.

Michael Thompson, general manager of infrastructure services, said the city doesn't expect to close down specific businesses, unlike during the past round of restrictions.

Because the water-main shutdown is being planned ahead of time, he said he doesn't expect there to be boil-water advisories or the need for water wagons.

"We will not be closing indoor pools either, at either hotels or recreation centres, and we will not be closing arenas," he said.

More work to rehabilitate the feeder main could stretch into next year, but the city needs to act now in time for river water to refill a key reservoir before the winter, Mr. Thompson said.

An estimated \$20-million to \$25-million will be pulled from the city's reserves to pay for the repairs to date.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALLEGED SECOND VICTIM OF ALICE MUNRO'S HUSBAND HOPES STORY ENCOURAGES PARENTS TO BELIEVE KIDS

The second woman to publicly accuse Alice Munro's late husband of targeting her sexually when she was a child says she hopes her story will encourage parents to believe their children.

Jane Morrey was nine years old when she says Gerald Fremlin exposed himself to her while he was staying at her family's Toronto home, several years before he married Ms. Munro. Fifty-five years later, she was inspired to speak publicly about it for the first time after learning that Mr. Fremlin had later sexually abused one of Ms. Munro's daughters, Andrea Robin Skinner, when she, too, was 9.

Ms. Munro's decision to stay with Mr. Fremlin after learning of the sexual abuse has tarnished the legacy of one of Canada's most celebrated authors. Ms. Munro died in May, at the age of 92.

Ms. Morrey, 64, who first told her story to the Toronto Star, hopes her decision to speak out will help other parents understand how important it is to act decisively. "Aside from Alice Munro's fame, aside from everything, if something happens and your child tells you, then believe them and act accordingly," she said.

It was only after Ms. Skinner's essay was published that it became known Mr. Fremlin, who died in 2013 at the age of 88, had pleaded guilty in 2005 to indecently assaulting his step-daughter. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A collapsed crane lies across a road in Vancouver on Wednesday, a day after a fire in the city's Dunbar neighbourhood destroyed an under-construction apartment building and damaged nine other homes. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver fire officials investigating causes of two blazes in unoccupied apartment buildings

ANDREA WOO VANCOUVER

A fire in Vancouver's Dunbar neighbourhood that destroyed an under-construction apartment building and damaged nine other homes involved the collapse of a crane and left hundreds of people without electricity overnight.

The fire broke out at about 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the construction site at West 41st Avenue and Collingwood Street on the city's west side. Nearby residents reported hearing several explosions, which they assumed to be propane tanks, and seeing the six-storey structure completely engulfed in flames, sending large plumes of acrid smoke into the sky.

Embers and debris ignited nine additional fires, forcing some residents to flee, according to Vancouver Fire Rescue Services. The crane took down several power lines when it fell onto a home; the sole occupant was rescued unharmed. More than 700 properties were left without electricity on Tuesday night. By the following afternoon, as BC Hydro crews worked to restore power, fewer than 100 properties were still in the dark. Two homes also had their gas shut off, according to FortisBC.

Several residents in the area were still waiting on Wednesday to return to their homes.

VFRS deputy chief Robert Weeks said a couple of firefighters sustained minor

injuries battling the blaze, but that he was not aware of anyone else being hurt.

Lea Tkatch, who lives in a townhome nearby, said she was washing dishes Tuesday evening when she heard several explosions within the span of a couple of minutes – ground-shaking booms that she guessed to be propane tanks or transformers exploding.

The first explosion jolted her. "I grabbed my phone and before I could even do anything, the second explosion went, so then I went out in front of my house and you could see the flames start. ... It didn't take long after that second one for the flames to be seven storeys high."

Ms. Tkatch grabbed a neighbour's garden hose and began soaking her patio furniture as embers and smouldering debris fell around her.

Cathy Daniel, who lives in the same complex as Ms. Tkatch, was barbecuing when the fire broke out.

"I'll never forget the frightening roar," she said. "I was blocks away and I could feel the heat."

The Dunbar fire was the second large fire in Vancouver on Tuesday. About two hours earlier, a blaze broke out at a vacant apartment building on East 10th Avenue near Prince Edward Street in the city's

Mount Pleasant neighbourhood – the same building that was gutted by fire in July, 2023, displacing more than 70 residents.

That building has sat empty since, but Mr. Weeks said firefighters have been called to the building several times for reports of fires started by people squatting inside the building. Given the condition of the structure after this latest fire, Vancouver's chief building official on Wednesday ordered that it be demolished.

VFRS said Wednesday that investigations will take place to determine the circumstances surrounding both incidents. Several streets around both fires remained closed to traffic Wednesday afternoon as emergency management staff worked on scene.

With resources stretched thin by the two fires, firefighters from the Burnaby Fire Department and Richmond Fire-Rescue were dispatched to assist in Dunbar.

The Dunbar apartment building comprised 109 units, with occupancy scheduled to start next spring. According to developer Sightline Properties, the development was to contain a mix of one- to three-bedroom units.

More than 700 properties were left without electricity on Tuesday night. By the following afternoon, as BC Hydro crews worked to restore power, fewer than 100 properties were still in the dark.

Forces prepare for Lebanon evacuation

Canada is positioning staff, equipment in case of an all-out regional war in Middle East

MARIEKE WALSH
SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER
OTTAWA

The Canadian Armed Forces are positioning staff and equipment in the Mediterranean in the event of an evacuation mission as fear of an all-out regional war in the Middle East grows.

The federal government has for months urged Canadians in Lebanon to leave the country. Those calls have become more urgent after two high-profile assassinations last week, for which Iran and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah have vowed retaliation against Israel.

An Israeli strike on July 30 in Lebanon's capital, Beirut, killed Hezbollah's top military commander, Fuad Shukur, as well as an Iranian military adviser and five civilians. Coupled with the killing in Tehran hours later of Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the Palestinian militant group Hamas, the strike has risked sparking a regional war. The Canadian government has designated Hamas and Hezbollah terrorist groups.

The Israeli government has said that it would respond to any attack from Iran or Hezbollah, potentially putting Lebanon in its crosshairs.

The Iranian government further raised concerns Wednesday, issuing a warning to civilian airlines around the world to avoid flying through its air space owing to military exercises on Wednesday and Thursday.

While Ottawa has not yet said it would conduct an evacuation mission should Canadians be-



Smoke billows from an Israeli strike on Kfar Kila, Lebanon, on Wednesday. Calls to evacuate the country have become more urgent after two high-profile assassinations. RABIH DAHER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

come stranded in Lebanon, plans for one are moving ahead.

The Forces are in the process of positioning assets in the eastern Mediterranean region to be ready to assist the Global Affairs Department with planning and logistics should the federal government green-light an evacuation operation for Canadians in Lebanon, the Defence Department said in a Wednesday statement.

"The forward positioning of assets is part of standard CAF preparatory activities that support planning and liaison activities with other government departments and agencies, as well as information sharing between allies to ensure optimal situational awareness in the region."

The department did not immediately clarify what assets it is putting in place. The 2006 evacuation of Canadians from Lebanon was done by air and sea.

Despite the current planning, "there is never a guarantee the Canadian government will evacuate Canadians in a crisis situation," said Defence spokesperson André-Anne Poulin in a subsequent statement.

Canada and its allies helped evacuate stranded citizens in Israel by air in the wake of the Hamas attack on the Jewish state on Oct. 7. Since then planning for an evacuation from Lebanon has also been in the works amid concerns of a regional war.

In the fall, Canadian officials said the Canadian Forces were working on contingency plans with allies in the event that Canadians, permanent residents and their families need to be evacuated from Lebanon. That included setting up a "multinational non-

combatant evacuation operations co-ordination centre" in Cyprus.

Last week, National Defence Department spokesperson Alexandre Tétrault said the Canadian Forces are in Cyprus right now to help the Canadian embassy in Lebanon with contingency planning.

He said approximately 30 CAF personnel are part of an Operational Liaison and Reconnaissance Team in Cyprus and "other key locations."

As Western allies prepare for a possible evacuation mission, there are also intense diplomatic efforts under way to try to de-escalate the situation. On Wednesday, French President Emmanuel Macron's office said he spoke with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and urged him to do "everything in his power to avoid

a new military escalation."

The French President also spoke to Jordan's King Abdullah II, Emirati President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman earlier this week.

U.S. President Joe Biden has also been calling leaders in the region, speaking on Tuesday with his counterparts in Egypt and Qatar to discuss de-escalation efforts.

Lebanon sits on the Mediterranean Sea. It borders Israel to its south and Syria to its north and east. Nearly 22,000 Canadians have registered their presence in Lebanon with the Department of Global Affairs, the government said last week, but that doesn't capture everyone there.

The Global Affairs Department estimates that between 40,000 and 75,000 Canadians live in Lebanon.

The federal government's website is urging Canadians in Lebanon to leave now, and notes that advice has been in place since October, 2023. Leaving is becoming increasingly difficult as some airlines have already suspended service from Beirut, but the government warns that an exit will become even more challenging with more flight cancellations and airspace closings expected.

"You should not rely on the Government of Canada for assisted departure or evacuation," the website says.

Lebanon was the centre of Canada's largest ever evacuation mission in 2006 when the government spent \$100-million evacuating 14,000 citizens from the country. That mission was conducted amid all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah, which killed around 1,300 Lebanese people and 165 Israelis.

With reports from Associated Press

Britain: List of more than 30 potential protest spots targeted businesses, charities

FROM A1

The BBC has reported that the suspect's parents were from Rwanda. Police have not disclosed a motive for the stabbing attack. Britain has very tight restrictions on what can be reported once a case is under way.

Last week, and over the weekend, rioters clashed with police, set cars on fire and targeted mosques and hotels housing asylum seekers. Far-right groups had called for further protests Wednesday night, with the BBC reporting that police were monitoring at least 30 locations, including London.

With tensions running high, some 6,000 specialist public-order police officers were mobilized nationwide to respond to any disorder. Authorities in several cities and towns stepped up patrols and gave police extended powers to arrest those they believed were intent on causing unrest, even before any riots started.

Among a small number of arrests reported Wednesday night was one in Southampton, where Hampshire police said they had detained a 40-year-old man from nearby Eastleigh, suspected of violent or threatening behaviour. That incident took place after a small group of anti-immigration protesters gathered but were outnumbered by counterprotesters, and police kept the two groups apart.

In Bristol, police said there was one arrest after a brick was thrown at a police vehicle and a bottle was thrown, but that demonstrations there had remained largely peaceful. In the southern city of Portsmouth, police officers dispersed a small group of anti-immigration protesters who had blocked a roadway in the city. And in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where there have been at least four nights of unrest, disorder continued and the police service said Wednesday that it would bring in additional officers.

A list circulating on messaging



An anti-immigration protester, centre, speaks to police officers Wednesday in North Finchley, London, after days of anti-immigrant riots shocked the country. PA WIRE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

apps and social media showed more than 30 spots that might be targeted by anti-immigration protests. Many were businesses or charities that support asylum seekers and refugees; a number of them closed after the list circulated.

That list included Liverpool, where by late evening, the anti-racism demonstration that crowded a street in the east of the city had taken on an almost joyous tone. Hundreds of people gathered on the street outside a charity that supports asylum-seekers, which had been on the list. The charity, Asylum Link Merseyside, has been closed for days in anticipation of violence, and on Wednesday evening, the windows at the centre were boarded up.

Many businesses in the area had also closed early, with parents describing being asked to pick up their children from a nearby child care centre.

On Wednesday evening, people banged drums, chanted "Fascists out!" and held signs that read "Love Not Hate" as a helicopter circled overhead. There was a large police presence, but the anti-immigration crowd failed to materialize. Instead, the gathering was diverse, made up of locals

who were surprised that their street had become the centre of a demonstration, union groups and others who voiced condemnation of the recent violence in Britain.

By late evening, there was no sign of anti-immigration demonstrations, but thousands of counterprotesters filled the main streets, carrying signs that read "Refugees welcome" and "smash the far right."

Prime Minister Keir Starmer warned late Tuesday that anyone involved in the violence would face "the full force of the law," noting that more than 400 people had been arrested since the violence began, including people who had taken part in the riots and committed crimes online, and around 100 charged.

"That should send a very powerful message," he said, "to anybody involved, either directly or online, that you are likely to be dealt with within a week."

On Wednesday, Telegram said its moderators were removing channels and posts containing calls to violence, which it says are forbidden under its terms of service.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Israel issues evacuation orders in northern Gaza

NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI

Israeli forces on Wednesday issued new evacuation orders to Palestinians in areas of north Gaza that were among the first to be hit at the start of the war with Hamas in October, after militants fired a fresh volley of rockets into Israel.

Army spokesperson Avichay Adraee posted the evacuation orders for several districts in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, two now largely demolished towns into which Israeli tanks swept at the outset of Israel's ground invasion.

"Hamas and terrorist organisations are firing rockets from your area towards the State of Israel. The IDF will act forcefully and immediately against them," Mr. Adraee said in the message sent by text or social media to Palestinian residents.

"For your own safety, evacuate immediately to the known shelters in the center of Gaza City," the army spokesman said.

In a nearby Gaza City neighbourhood, Al-Tuffah, an Israeli air strike on a house killed three Palestinians, medics said. Later on Wednesday, 10 Palestinians were killed in two separate Israeli strikes in Khan Younis in southern Gaza. Medics said one strike killed three people on a motorcycle west of Khan Younis, while seven others were killed in tank shelling that hit a tent encampment in Abassan town, east of the city.

Fighting has continued in the Gaza Strip even as Israel braces for an expected assault in its north from Iran and its close Lebanese ally Hezbollah after the July 31 assassination in the Iranian capital Tehran of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh.

The Israeli military says it has killed dozens of Gaza militants in recent days and on Wednesday said troops had hit weapons-making facilities in the teeming district of Deir al-Balah in central Gaza, where tens of thousands of Palestinians displaced by the fighting have taken shelter.

In other central areas, Israeli tanks shelled Nuseirat and Bureij, two of Gaza Strip's eight historic refugee camps. Israel says Hamas militants use civilian infrastructure for cover and to conceal operations posts and arms caches; Hamas denies this.

Militants say they continue to carry out ambush attacks on Israeli troops and armoured vehicles with explosive devices, and are still able to launch limited rocket salvos into Israel.

REUTERS

ORGANIZERS CANCEL TAYLOR SWIFT VIENNA CONCERTS AFTER CONFIRMED PLANS FOR ATTACK

BERLIN Taylor Swift's three concerts in Vienna this week were cancelled after the government confirmed a planned attack at the stadium, the organizer announced late on Wednesday, and Austria's Chancellor Karl Nehammer said "a tragedy was prevented."

"Thanks to the intensive co-operation of our police and the newly established DSN with foreign services, the threat was identified early on, combatted and a tragedy prevented," Mr. Nehammer said in a post on social media platform X. DSN is Austria's Directorate for Security and Intelligence. "With confirmation from government officials of a planned terrorist attack at Ernst Happel Stadium, we have no choice but to cancel the three scheduled shows for everyone's safety," Barracuda.music said in a post on Instagram, adding all tickets would be automatically refunded.

Austrian police on Wednesday detained two people suspected of plotting attacks on concerts, Franz Ruf, director-general for public security, said at a news conference on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Ruf said the suspect, an Austrian citizen, had pledged allegiance to Islamic state. Another suspect was later arrested in Vienna.

Local media, citing police sources, said three suspects were still on the run. REUTERS

EGYPT ASKS ITS AIRLINES TO AVOID IRANIAN AIRSPACE FOR THREE HOURS ON THURSDAY

Egypt instructed all of its airlines to avoid Iranian air space for a three-hour period in the early morning on Thursday amid tension between Israel and Iran.

The NOTAM, a safety notice provided to pilots on Wednesday, said the instruction would be in effect from 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. GMT.

"All Egyptian carriers shall avoid overflying Tehran (Flight Information Region) FIR. No flight plan will be accepted overflying such territory," the notice said, referring to the three-hour period provided.

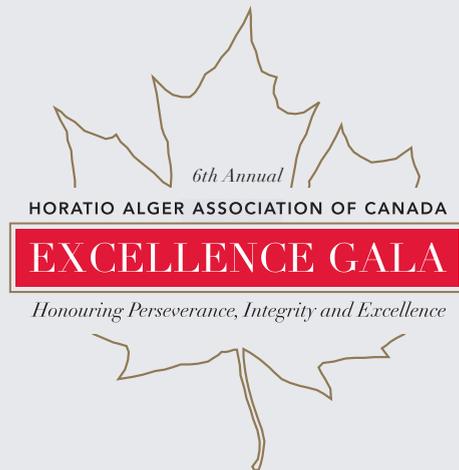
On Sunday, Jordanian authorities asked all airlines landing at its airports to carry 45 minutes

worth of extra fuel.

Many airlines are revising their schedules to avoid Iranian and Lebanese air space while also calling off flights to Israel and Lebanon as many fear a possible broader conflict after the killing of senior members of militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah. REUTERS

THE HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE



HONOURING THE 2024 International Horatio Alger Awards Recipients



Michael Bublé
CANADIAN SINGER AND SONGWRITER



Kap Dilawri
CO-FOUNDER,
DILAWRI GROUP OF COMPANIES



Victor Dodig
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CIBC



Tracy Robinson
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CN



Adam Waterous
CEO AND MANAGING PARTNER,
WATEROUS ENERGY FUND

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto
November 19, 2024 | 6:00 pm ET

HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION OF CANADA MEMBERS:

Alain Bouchard · Dominic D'Alessandro · Dr. Rola Dagher · Amar S. Doman · N. Murray Edwards · Darren Entwistle · Peter E. Gilgan · Serge Godin · Wayne D. Gretzky · Jay S. Hennick · David Johnston · Monique F. Leroux · Rebecca MacDonald · Anthony von Mandl · Bharat B. Masrani · G. Wallace F. McCain* · Lorne Michaels · Brian Mulroney* · Jim Pattison · Ryan Reynolds · David E. Ritchie · Calin Rovinescu · Walter Schroeder · Gerald W. "Gerry" Schwartz · Isadore Sharp · Edward Sonshine · Jim Treliving · V. Prem Watsa · Rick Waugh

**Deceased*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPONSORSHIPS
PLEASE CONTACT: GALA@HORATIOALGER.CA

WWW.HORATIOALGER.CA



Harris and Walz test their Midwest credentials

Their campaign events on Wednesday were held in the battleground states of Wisconsin and Michigan

JEFF MASON EAU CLAIRE, WIS.
JOSEPH AX DETROIT

Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris and her new running mate, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, put his Midwestern credentials to the test on Wednesday with rallies in the battleground states of Wisconsin and Michigan.

"Hello, Eau Claire!" Mr. Walz said to a boisterous crowd of thousands in the Wisconsin city about 130 kilometres away from his home across the Minnesota border. "Isn't it good to have a candidate who can pronounce the name correctly?"

The Democratic candidates are using the campaign swing states to introduce Mr. Walz, a former teacher and football coach and a veteran of the Army National Guard, to voters around the country after he beat out better-known Democrats for the No. 2 spot.

They are also making their case against Republican rival Donald Trump and his running mate, U.S. Senator J.D. Vance, with less than three months until the Nov. 5 election, highlighting in particular their threat to abortion rights.

Polls show Ms. Harris has erased the lead Mr. Trump had built during the final faltering weeks of President Joe Biden's campaign, and a re-energized Democratic Party has flooded her campaign with donations since she rose to the top of the ticket two weeks ago.

The Harris campaign said it raised US\$36-million in the 24 hours after announcing Mr. Walz as the vice-presidential pick on Tuesday.

A former congressman, who won elections in a Republican-leaning district before becoming governor, Mr. Walz has a record of appealing to the white rural voters who have increasingly turned to Mr. Trump over the years.

But Mr. Trump and Mr. Vance have rushed to portray Mr. Walz as too left-wing, echoing their criticisms of Ms. Harris.

With Mr. Trump largely off the road this week, Mr. Vance has been trailing Ms. Harris and Mr. Walz around the country and holding campaign events near their rallies, an effort that comes as Ms. Harris's surge appears to have rattled the Trump camp.



Attendees wait for Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris and her running mate, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, to speak during a campaign event in Eau Claire, Wis., on Wednesday. Democrats regard Wisconsin as a near must-win state. ERICA DISCHINO/REUTERS

In an unusual moment on Wednesday, Mr. Vance approached Air Force Two while Ms. Harris appeared to be in her motorcade on the tarmac in Wisconsin. He asked reporters nearby why she didn't take more of their questions.

The two candidates' planes were several hundred yards from one another at Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire.

Mr. Vance said he was trying to "check out this plane that's going to be mine in a few months" and briefly spoke to reporters while Ms. Harris's motorcade drove away, video taken by local reporters showed.

Ms. Harris's campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the incident, which several people travelling with the vice-president said went unnoticed at the time.

Ms. Harris and Mr. Vance postponed planned events for Thursday across Georgia and North Carolina owing to Tropical Storm Debby.

In an interview on Fox News on Wednesday, Mr. Trump said he would debate Ms. Harris in the "pretty near future" and that details would be announced soon. He said his preference was for Fox to host the debate.

Last week, Mr. Trump proposed a debate with Ms. Harris on Fox News on Sept. 4. The Harris campaign said Mr. Trump was trying to back out of a debate that had already been set with ABC on Sept. 10.

Earlier in the day in Detroit, ahead of Ms. Harris and Mr. Walz's scheduled evening rally there, Mr. Vance tried out some attack lines on his Democratic counterpart, criticizing Mr. Walz's handling of the protests in Minneapolis after the killing of

George Floyd there by police in 2020.

Mr. Vance, who served in the Marine Corps and was a public affairs officer during a six-month stint in Iraq, also slammed Mr. Walz's military record, saying he abandoned his National Guard battalion right before its deployment to Iraq in 2005. Mr. Walz, who served in the Guard for 24 years, retired to run for Congress.

Democrats regard Wisconsin and Michigan as near must-wins in the 2024 election. The states have loomed large for the party since Hillary Clinton's unexpected defeats there helped clinch Mr. Trump's 2016 win.

Mr. Biden beat Mr. Trump in both states in 2020. But opinion polls showed him facing a close battle in Michigan before he dropped out of the race last month, with much of the state's significant Arab and Muslim American population fuming over his administration's support for Israel in its war against Hamas in Gaza after the Oct. 7 attacks.

REUTERS

Despite his fondness for China, observers say Walz won't be soft on Beijing

JAMES GRIFFITHS HONG KONG

No sooner had U.S. presidential candidate Kamala Harris announced Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate Tuesday, than users on Chinese social media began digging into his record vis-a-vis their country.

They would have done so with any candidate, particularly after Donald Trump's own vice-presidential pick, J.D. Vance, repeatedly touted his tough-on-China credentials, but Mr. Walz, a Mandarin-speaking teacher who both worked and honeymooned in China, has proven an unusually rich subject.

And while Republicans and their media allies have been quick to attack Mr. Walz over his perceived fondness for China — with the right-wing New York Post accusing him of having "fawned over" the country's Communist rulers — many Chinese observers are more skeptical.

"Being a China guy or living in China for a long time doesn't equal being soft on China," said Wu Xinbo, director of the Center for American Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai. "These two things do not necessarily relate to each other."

Indeed, Mr. Walz, while long touting the value of engagement and cross-cultural exchanges between the United States and China, also appears to have a genuine commitment to promoting human rights, and a fondness for the Chinese people that is often lacking among right-wing hawks in Washington, who approach



Democratic vice-presidential running mate Tim Walz has worked and honeymooned in China. He has also spoken out about restrictions on human rights in the country. KEVIN MOHATT/REUTERS

the relationship from a more nationalist, great-power-competition perspective.

In a 1990 interview about his time in China, Mr. Walz spoke of travelling to Beijing shortly after the Tiananmen Square massacre of June, 1989, noting the Chinese people "have been mistreated and cheated by their government for years."

"If they had the proper leadership, there are no limits on what they could accomplish," he told the Star-Herald. "They are such kind, generous, capable people. They just gave and gave and gave to me. Going there was one of the best things I have ever done."

Mr. Walz and his wife married on June 4, 1994, the fifth anniversary of the massacre, chosen because "he wanted to have a date

he'll always remember," according to his spouse Gwen Whipple.

As a congressman, Mr. Walz served on the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, which focuses on human rights and has long been a thorn in Beijing's side, giving a platform to Chinese dissidents and attacking the country's record on issues such as Tibet, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and internet censorship.

In 2016, Mr. Walz travelled as part of a U.S. Congressional delegation to Tibet, and while he praised Chinese development work there, he also noted "growing concern" among himself and other lawmakers about "restrictions on human rights and religious freedom in Tibet," and called for dialogue between Beijing and the Dalai Lama — whom

Mr. Walz has met on several occasions. The following year, Mr. Walz co-sponsored the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, and was an early critic of Beijing's growing encroachment on the former British colony's political freedoms. (The law, which enabled the U.S. to impose sanctions against those deemed guilty of human-rights violations in Hong Kong, wouldn't pass until 2019, amid large-scale pro-democracy protests.)

Jeffrey Ngo, a Hong Kong democracy activist who lobbied Mr. Walz and others on this issue, described him on social media as "perhaps the most solid candidate when it comes to human rights and China on a major-party ticket in recent memory."

The perception that Mr. Walz's China experiences may make him a far tougher voice in any future administration is shared in Taiwan, where media outlets have been quick to highlight his visits to the self-ruled island and criticism of Beijing.

"Walz's experience in China should be seen as a major positive for Taiwan," said Lev Nachman, an assistant professor at National Taiwan University in Taipei.

"It means he's not ignorant to what life under the PRC is like," he said, referring to the People's Republic of China, "and how valuable it is for a place like Taiwan to maintain its democratic freedoms."

Prof. Wu said Mr. Walz's military experience — he served 24 years in the U.S. Army National Guard, though never saw combat — may also mean he is "tougher

on national-security-related issues."

For decades, Beijing has become accustomed to ignoring tough China rhetoric from U.S. politicians: Bill Clinton denounced the "butchers of Beijing" after Tiananmen, but then pushed for China to join the World Trade Organization; Mr. Trump attacked China on trade but also repeatedly praised Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Even today, as both Mr. Trump and Mr. Vance have made attacking China a key part of their campaign, many Chinese observers favour the former president over Ms. Harris, pointing to his desire for a trade deal and isolationist instincts, particularly when it comes to any potential conflict over Taiwan.

"In many ways, Trump's signature transactional approach to U.S. leadership in international affairs could work in China's favour geopolitically," Hong Kong-based political analyst Wang Xiangwei wrote this week.

He added that Mr. Trump's tough talk on NATO, Ukraine and global trade could also "provide a much-needed opportunity for China to disrupt the united Western front that Washington cobbled together to resist against the perceived rising and assertive influence from Beijing."

The choice of Mr. Walz suggests Ms. Harris may seek to uphold the current administration's tough stand toward China. Indeed, for all the criticism of the Minnesota governor by Republicans, his experience on China will likely be seen as anything but reassuring for Beijing.

9/11 HEARINGS AT GUANTANAMO BAY IN UPHEAVAL AFTER ORDER BY U.S. DEFENCE CHIEF TO THROW OUT PLEA AGREEMENT

Military-run hearings for accused Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and two co-defendants, Mustafa al-Hawsawi and Walid bin Attash, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were in upheaval Wednesday after U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin's decision to throw out a plea agreement.

Defence lawyers contend the plea deal still stands and suspended participation in the pre-trial hearings while legal challenges to Mr. Austin's action play out. Prosecutors also raised

the prospect that the pretrial hearings might have to be frozen as lawyers look for explanations in Mr. Austin's order and work through the issues raised by it.

The judge overseeing the case, Air Force Colonel Matthew McCall, acknowledged concerns over outside pressure on the case. The plea agreement, which would have spared the defendants the risk of the death penalty, and Mr. Austin's subsequent order, issued late Friday, have generated strong feelings, including among the families of

Sept. 11 victims. The Biden administration came under heavy Republican criticism over the plea deal.

The events of the past week are the latest significant disruption of the U.S. military prosecution of defendants accused in the 2001 killings of nearly 3,000 people, in an al-Qaeda plot that saw hijackers commandeer four passenger airliners and fly them into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, with the fourth coming down in a field in Pennsylvania.

The new developments began unfolding last week after the Pentagon-approved chief authority over the Guantanamo Bay military commission, Susan Escallier, approved the plea agreement between the military-appointed prosecutors and defence lawyers, which had been two years in the making. Mr. Austin said in Friday's order that he was overriding Ms. Escallier's approval and taking direct control of such decisions in the 9/11 case going forward.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Have The
Globe and Mail
delivered to
your door

CALL 1-800-387-5400
TGAM.CA/SUBSCRIBE

Ukraine-Russia war spills over into Africa

Struggle for influence in continent deepens political fissures between their allies

GEOFFREY YORK
AFRICA BUREAU CHIEF
JOHANNESBURG

The war between Russia and Ukraine is spilling over into Africa again this week, deepening the political fissures between their African allies as the two countries accelerate their battle for influence on the continent.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba met senior leaders in three African countries this week, offering grain shipments for drought-stricken economies in Zambia and Malawi. But his government suffered a setback in West Africa, where two Russian allies announced a complete severing of their relations with Ukraine.

The struggle for diplomatic and military influence in Africa began soon after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, when Moscow managed to persuade dozens of African countries to refrain from condemning the invasion or joining the Western sanctions against it.

Since then, the foreign ministers of Russia and Ukraine have

travelled repeatedly to Africa, seeking support from governments whose votes at the United Nations can sometimes spell the difference between success or failure for the diplomatic efforts of the two countries.

The latest tensions were sparked by reports of Ukrainian aid to Russia's military enemies in Africa, most recently in West Africa, where coup leaders in several countries have recruited Russian troops to fight rebel militias.

The reports of Ukrainian involvement are unproven. But a Ukrainian official has hinted openly that his country provided assistance to the separatist rebels who killed dozens of Russian military contractors in a battle in northern Mali last month.

The rebels said they killed 84 soldiers from the Kremlin-linked Wagner Group – a death toll that would make it Russia's bloodiest defeat in Africa. The Wagner Group has acknowledged that it suffered heavy losses in Mali, and mourners have placed flowers at a memorial in Moscow for the dead troops.

A spokesperson for Ukraine's military intelligence agency, Andriy Yusov, told a Ukrainian national television channel that the rebels had received "the necessary information" to launch the attack on the Russian soldiers. He did not say who supplied the



People gather near a memorial in Moscow on Sunday during a ceremony held to pay tribute to dozens of Wagner Group fighters who were killed in Mali. YULIA MOROZOVA/REUTERS

information and refused to give further details, but it was a clear signal that Ukraine was claiming a role in the attack.

Mali and Niger, whose military regimes are strong allies of Moscow, swiftly announced the termination of their relations with Ukraine "with immediate effect" this week. Both countries have substantial contingents of Russian troops on their territory as a result of recent agreements with Moscow.

The dispute spread to a neighbouring country, Senegal, when a Ukrainian diplomat posted a video of Mr. Yusov's comments on

social media. The Senegalese government summoned the diplomat and rebuked him.

In response to Mali's severing of relations, Ukraine's Foreign Ministry called it a hasty decision and complained that Mali had failed to provide evidence of Ukrainian involvement in the rebel attack. It has not yet commented on Niger's decision.

The Russian government, meanwhile, accused Ukraine of opening a "second front in Africa" after failing to defeat Russia on the Ukrainian battlefield. It also accused Ukraine of supporting terrorist groups in Russian-allied

countries such as Mali.

Ukrainian military involvement in Africa has been often reported, although never officially confirmed. Last year, there were widespread reports that Ukraine had deployed a unit of soldiers in Khartoum to join the fight against the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a Sudanese paramilitary force, which is perceived to be pro-Russia. But later there were signs that Russia has links to both sides of the Sudan war – it recently forged an agreement with the RSF's enemy, the Sudanese military.

Russia has greatly expanded its military presence in African countries in recent years. In addition to Mali and Niger, it is now providing troops to Central African Republic and Burkina Faso.

In Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa, hundreds of protesters waved Russian flags in anti-government demonstrations this month, although the Russian government denied any involvement.

Ukraine has been scrambling to respond to the rise in African support for Moscow. Last year, Mr. Kuleba acknowledged that Ukraine had failed to give "proper attention" to Africa in the past. In an effort to catch up to Moscow, he has visited Africa on four separate tours over the past two years, opening new Ukrainian embassies in several countries.

Putin accuses Kyiv of a 'large-scale provocation' after military incursion

SAMYA KULLAB KYIV

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday described a Ukrainian incursion into the country's southwestern Kursk region as a "large-scale provocation" as his officials asserted that they were fighting off cross-border raids for a second day. Ukrainian officials remained quiet about the scope of the operation.

Mr. Putin met with his top defence and security officials to discuss what he called the "indiscriminate shelling of civilian buildings, residential houses, ambulances with different types of weapons." He instructed the cabinet to co-ordinate assistance to the Kursk region. The fighting is about 500 kilometres from Moscow.

Army Chief of Staff Valery Gerasimov told Mr. Putin at the meeting via video link that about 100 Ukrainian soldiers had been killed in the battle and more than 200 wounded, Russian news agencies reported.

The Ukrainian shelling, meanwhile, killed at least two people – a paramedic and an ambulance driver – and injured 24, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said in a statement.

It was not possible to independently verify the Russian claims. Disinformation and propaganda have played a central role in the war, now in its third year.

The head of the region urged residents to donate blood owing to the intense fighting. "In the last 24 hours, our region has been heroically resisting attacks" by Ukrainian fighters, acting governor Alexei Smirnov said on Telegram, adding that all emergency services were on high alert.

Mr. Smirnov said authorities had evacuated more than 200 people from areas under shelling, while several thousand others left in their own vehicles.

If confirmed, the cross-border foray would be among Ukraine's largest since Russia's full-scale invasion in February, 2022, and unprecedented for its deployment of Ukrainian military units.

Kyiv's aim could be to draw Russian reserves to the area, potentially weakening Moscow's offensive operations in several parts of Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region where Russian forces have increased attacks and are advancing gradually toward operationally significant gains.

But it could risk stretching outmanned Ukrainian troops further along the front line, which is more than 1,000 kilometres long.

Even if Russia were to commit reserves to stabilize the new front, given its vast manpower and the relatively small number of Ukrainian forces engaged in the operation, it would likely have little long-term effect.

However, the operation could boost Ukrainian morale at a time when Kyiv's forces are facing relentless Russian attacks. Russian forces have swiftly repelled previous cross-border incursions, but not before they caused damage and embarrassed authorities.

The Russian Defence Ministry said Tuesday that up to 300 Ukrainian troops, supported by 11 tanks and more than 20 armoured combat vehicles, had crossed into Russia and suffered heavy losses.

Open-source monitors have also not been able to verify the claims. The U.S.-based Institute for the Study of War could not verify whether damaged and abandoned armoured vehicles shown in geolocated video seven kilometres north of the border west of Lyubimovka in the Kursk region were Ukrainian.

The think tank also cast doubt on video shared by Russian military bloggers claiming to show the aftermath of the Ukrainian raids. Most of the damage shown "appears to be the result of routine Ukrainian shelling and does not indicate that there was ground activity in the area," it said in its daily report.

Responsibility for previous incursions into Russia's Belgorod and Bryansk regions has been claimed by two murky groups: the Russian Volunteer Corps and the Freedom of Russia Legion, which are made up of Russian citizens and have fought alongside Ukrainian forces.

Some Russian war bloggers who have proved knowledgeable about the war said that Ukrainian soldiers were in Kursk.

Rybar, a Telegram channel run by Mikhail Zvinchuk, a retired Russian Defence Ministry press officer, said Ukrainian troops had seized three settlements in the region and continued to fight their way deeper in.



People gather in front of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party headquarters during a rally in Dhaka on Wednesday to celebrate its chief Khaleda Zia's release from house arrest on Tuesday. RAJIB DHAR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bangladesh's interim leader returns, government to be sworn in Thursday

RUMA PAUL
SUDIPTO GANGULY

The Nobel Peace laureate tapped to lead an interim government in Bangladesh called for calm and boarded a flight on Wednesday to return home, a day before his new government is expected to be sworn in to replace ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Muhammad Yunus, 84, was picked by President Mohammed Shahabuddin to lead the new interim government, a key demand of student demonstrators whose uprising drove Ms. Hasina to flee to India on Monday.

"Let us make the best use of our new victory," he said in a statement to Reuters before departing Paris, where he had been receiving medical treatment while out on bail from criminal cases brought under Ms. Hasina. "I fervently appeal to everybody to stay calm. Please refrain from all kinds of violence."

Outside the airport, he told reporters: "I'm looking forward to going back home and see what's happening there and how we can organize ourselves to get out of the trouble that we're in."

"I'll go and talk to them. I'm just fresh in this whole area," said Mr. Yunus, an economist who was awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for founding a bank that pioneered fighting poverty with small loans to ordinary people.

Mr. Shahabuddin said the rest of the interim government needed to be finalized soon to overcome the crisis and pave the way for elections. Nahid Islam, a key student leader, said he expected the members to be chosen by late Wednesday.

Army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman said that he was hopeful the interim government would be sworn in by late Thursday and that the situation in the country was improving and was expected to become normal in three to four



Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus waits for a flight to Bangladesh at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport on Wednesday. Mr. Yunus called on Bangladeshis to refrain from violence. ABDUL SABOOR/REUTERS

days.

Mr. Shahabuddin also announced the appointment of a new police chief, Mohammad Mainul Islam, to replace Chowdhury Abdullah Al Mamun as part of a shakeup of the security top brass that also included a new head of the technical intelligence monitoring agency and changes among senior army officials.

Ahead of the arrival of Mr. Yunus, a court overturned his conviction in a labour case in which he was handed a six-month jail sentence in January. Mr. Yunus had called his prosecution political, part of a campaign by Ms. Hasina to quash dissent.

The main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), buoyed by its chief Khaleda Zia's release from house arrest on Tuesday, drew hundreds of people to a rally in Dhaka and demanded elections within three months.

Ms. Zia, 78, a former prime minister and Ms. Hasina's arch rival, addressed the rally by video link, as did her exiled eldest son Tarique Rahman, who was introduced as the country's next prime minister. Both called on their fol-

lowers not to seek revenge.

"No destruction, revenge or vengeance," Ms. Zia said from her hospital bed. Her son said: "National elections should be held soon and power should be handed over to a government elected by the people at the earliest."

Ms. Zia had feuded and alternated power with Ms. Hasina since the early 1990s. She and Mr. Rahman were convicted of graft in 2018, in what they called a trumped-up case.

Ms. Hasina's resignation triggered jubilation across the country and crowds stormed and ransacked her official residence.

India, target of anger from some Bangladeshis for taking in Ms. Hasina, evacuated all non-essential staff and their families from its embassy and four consulates in the country, two Indian government sources said.

Most schools and university campuses in Dhaka and other cities reopened after having been shut for weeks. Garments factories that had been shut for days also began opening on Wednesday.

REUTERS



Baby Yusra, watched over by her mother at a hospital in Dessie, Ethiopia, got a life-threatening infection within days of her premature birth. The first antibiotics that doctors tried were no help. ABEN

Africa's moving, drug-resistant target

The overuse of antibiotics is making infections more difficult to treat and, in a number of countries, infants are being hit hardest

MISBAH KHAN

Yusra's tiny body was hooked up to machines twice her size as her mother clutched the side of her cot, watching her baby fight for her life. Yusra had developed severe sepsis, which meant her body had turned on itself. As her immune system attacked her vital organs, doctors tried to treat her with various antibiotics. But there was a problem: none of the drugs were working.

Yusra and her twin sister had been born two months early by C-section in Woldia, a hilly town in a region of northern Ethiopia blighted by violence between rebel and government forces. The hospital where they were delivered was still recovering from a rebel raid two years earlier that had stripped it of vital supplies. At six days old, Yusra's sister died because she needed blood the hospital did not have.

Fearing she would lose this daughter too, Yusra's mother had taken her on a five-hour journey, past numerous military checkpoints, to a specialist hospital in Dessie.

Sepsis, which accounts for one in three newborn deaths in Ethiopia, is a condition whereby the body overreacts to an infection. It can be stopped by tackling infections early and treating them with antibiotics. But in Yusra's case, it wasn't that simple.

Doctors had treated her with so-called "first-line" antibiotics – drugs that are used on infections in the first instance – but they didn't work. As they cycled through other types of antibiotics, her condition continued to deteriorate. What's more, the drugs were expensive. Even if the doctors did find one that could save Yusra's life, her mother might not be able to afford it.

A reporter from The Bureau of Investigative Journalism travelled to Ethiopia and Nigeria to bring light to stories such as Yusra's, but hers is just one example of a growing global emergency. Increasingly, infections that would once have been straightforward to manage with a course of antibiotics are no longer responding to drugs.

In 2019, drug-resistant infections were linked to nearly five million deaths around the world – more than HIV and malaria combined. More than 20 per cent occurred in sub-Saharan Africa, where the life-saving drugs that do exist can be in short supply, incorrectly prescribed and prohibitively priced.

"It's happening on the scale of a pandemic," says Nicholas Feasey, a professor at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. "African babies are dying in huge numbers because of this very widespread and severe illness."

And the problem is not confined to Africa. Around the world, the rate of resistance is growing and doctors on every continent are having to contend with infections that are nearly impossible to treat.

But it's patients like Yusra who are hit hardest.

A CENTURY OF ANTIBIOTICS

Antibiotics are the cornerstone of modern medi-



cine. Without them, the risk of a deadly infection would be present every time anyone underwent routine surgery, gave birth or even scraped their knee falling over.

When Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, the first ever antibiotic, in 1928, it ushered in a new age of medicine. Since that discovery, it has been estimated that almost 500 million lives have been saved by penicillin alone. Illnesses such as meningitis and rheumatic fever went from being commonly fatal to easily treatable.

But antibiotics are fighting a moving target. The bacteria that cause infections react to their surroundings and, if given enough chances, can "learn" ways of fending off the drugs designed to kill them. When Fleming accepted the Nobel Prize for his discovery, he issued a warning: these drugs had to be used sensibly because the bacteria they treat can become resistant.

Almost a century later, we now have more than 100 types of antibiotics. Some only kill specific bacteria, some work against a wider range. All have saved countless lives across the world. But Fleming's warning has not been heeded.

In the past quarter century alone, there has been an almost 50-per-cent increase in the amount of antibiotics used on people around the world. Antibiotics are increasingly used by doctors as a first recourse for conditions that might not require them. Where resources are scarce, lack of access to diagnostic testing and vaccines can leave doctors with little choice.

A nurse attends to nine-day-old baby earlier this year at the Massey Children's Hospital in Lagos, Nigeria, a country where one in every 29 babies die within a month of being born.
DAMILOLA ONAFUWA

In many countries, too, certain antibiotics are available over the counter without a prescription.

This overuse of these drugs – combined with a lack of clean water, sanitation and hygiene – has driven an alarming increase in antibiotic resistance. The result is that medical progress is effectively being reversed: infections from typhoid to pneumonia are becoming less easily treated with a simple round of drugs. Increasingly, they are becoming fatal.

PATIENTS ARE FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL

With only around 50 beds in total and referrals coming from across the region, the babies' intensive-care unit in Dessie was constantly at capacity. The beeping of machines across the ward merged into a single, constant drone. In a separate room to Yusra, a mother was breastfeeding her newborn son, Adonias, who was also battling an infection.

Signs of neonatal sepsis include trouble breathing, fever, poor feeding and tiredness. After complications during his birth, Adonias was showing nearly all of them. But his local hospital didn't have the testing facilities that would show which bacteria could be causing the infection – and therefore which antibiotics would have the best chance of treating it.

With no information to go on, they took a shot in the dark and prescribed Adonias the antibiotics most commonly used for sepsis. When days passed without them taking effect, Adonias was rushed



EZER ISRAELK



To treat baby Adonias, doctors at the Dessie hospital had to make a fateful choice about which drug to use, since they lacked the means to test their methods first. ABENEZER ISRAEL



Another patient at Massey Hospital, Eniyoha, was left behind by her family as she struggled with drug-resistant neonatal sepsis. DAMILOLA ONAFUWA

eight hours to Dessie, his mother by his side.

But again, the hospital did not have the right testing equipment. And so, again, the doctors had to gamble. “We usually have to treat them blindly,” said Tareegn Bitew, a neonatal doctor in Dessie’s intensive-care unit. “If they don’t improve with the first-line antibiotics, we suspect clinical drug resistance and blindly prescribe second-line antibiotics.”

Prescribing blind is a regular part of the job for doctors like Dr. Tareegn, not least because hospitals can be a hotbed for infections. The high concentration of sick people and presence of antibiotics can lead to bacteria surviving, getting stronger and spreading between patients. And if the wrong antibiotics are prescribed by doctors going on guesswork, the bacteria will continue to multiply, and the patient’s condition worsens.

In Adonias’s case, the second-line antibiotics seemed to be working. He was feeding more regularly and required less oxygen. But without testing there was no way to be certain.

TESTING TIMES

On the other side of the continent, in a neonatal ward in Lagos, lay Eniyoha, a weeks-old baby who had been abandoned by her parents at a hospital.

The hospital was in the midst of one of the power blackouts that plague the Nigerian city. And with the ward quickly losing daylight, the nurses prepared to do what they could to keep the babies warm.

The erratic power supply meant also that the patients’ medical records had to be kept on paper. Eniyoha’s file was already thick with notes detailing her condition, complications and treatments. She had been born eight weeks early with birth defects that meant lifelong physical impairments. Her parents had left her without an explanation, but hospital staff said it was likely that they couldn’t afford the hospital bill.

Eniyoha also had drug-resistant neonatal sepsis. Almost all of the babies admitted at the hospital in Lagos are septic before they arrive.

With resources limited, the staff were doing what they could. For more than a year, they had swabbed

the ward every day for bacteria and sent the samples for testing in government labs. The results were compiled and used to try and decide which drugs to use to treat the sick babies.

While the hospital didn’t have the means to test every baby for infection, it now had a cheat sheet: a list of antibiotics with a higher chance of success in treating these infections. This removed some of the guesswork, saving valuable time in the race to save lives.

This has never been more urgent. In Nigeria, one in every 29 babies die within four weeks of being born. Sepsis is one of the main causes. For premature babies such as Yusra and Eniyoha, the odds of surviving from a drug-resistant infection are even lower.

COUNTING COSTS

Eniyoha’s infection had not responded to either first or second-line antibiotics, so doctors were trying a third type. But in Nigeria, hospitals do not cover the costs of any drugs and so, for now, money from hospital donors was being used to foot the bill.

“It’s out of pocket,” said Folakemi Irewole-Ojo, medical director of the hospital, referring to the costs faced by patients needing antibiotics. “We come across parents that can’t afford treatment every day.”

“It’s the long duration of treatment – by the time the preterm babies have spent two weeks here, [the parent’s] pocket is dry.”

For premature babies, hospital stays can last for weeks. And the bills rack up.

The concern was echoed by doctors in Ethiopia, where hospitals cover the costs of some drugs but not others. “The cost is also high, we don’t know which patient will be sensitive to which antibiotics,” Dr. Tareegn said.

The standard approach, then, is to try the cheaper ones first. But if these fail, and a baby needs to be put onto so-called “last-resort” antibiotics such as meropenem, then the costs fall outside of the hospital’s budget. And a full course of treatment – around 20 vials – can cost five times as much as an average person earns in an entire month.

“If they don’t improve with the first-line antibiotics, we suspect clinical drug resistance and blindly prescribe second-line antibiotics.”

TAREEGN BITEW
NEONATAL
DOCTOR IN
DESSIE, ETHIOPIA

“If we had testing in this hospital, we would be able to improve patient management,” Dr. Tareegn said. “It would also decrease the costs for the families.”

At times, in hopes of spreading costs and saving money, vials of medicine and other hospital equipment are shared among patients. This is especially common among babies as they require smaller doses of medication than adults – and sometimes a single vial of meropenem is shared between three babies. Though it makes the most of scant resources, it can mean infections spread more easily across wards.

“Having to share hospital equipment is a major source of drug-resistant infections among neonates,” says Jonathan Stryko, a pediatrician and infectious disease epidemiologist based in Botswana. “It’s the fact hospitals have major reservoirs [of bacteria], like equipment that can never be fully cleaned.”

If not properly sanitized, the equipment is at risk of contamination by the bacteria that cause these fatal infections. “We need different ways of looking at infection prevention and controls in the hospital setting,” Dr. Stryko said. There is an added difficulty if hospitals do not have access to clean water.

In the neonatal ward in Lagos, the doctors’ cheat sheet had done its job: Eniyoha’s infection cleared. Social services are now trying to trace her parents. Back in Dessie, Adonias also continued to improve and was soon discharged from hospital.

Yusra, though, had not responded to second-line antibiotics. As her daughter’s health deteriorated, Yusra’s mother tried to get hold of meropenem before it was too late. It was on sale at pharmacies just outside of the hospital gates, but she didn’t have the money to pay for it. Her daughter died five days later.

LIVES ON THE LINE

Although The Bureau of Investigative Journalism spent just a short time in the hospital in Dessie, half the babies the reporter was introduced to did not survive more than the first few weeks of their lives. It’s something these doctors and nurses witness time and time again.

“Most of the patients die,” said Dr. Bitew, the neonatal doctor. “Some of them do improve.”

And while the babies in his ward are among those worst affected by drug-resistant infections, they are far from the only ones put at risk by an increasingly global problem.

As more and more bacteria learn how to fend off human medicine, we are all at risk of dying from infections that are becoming untreatable. But for now, it’s the most helpless patients who find themselves on the front lines.

Their access to testing equipment, vaccinations, clean water, sanitation and hygiene must all be addressed. As Dr. Feasey, the tropical medicine professor, said: “A holistic approach needs to be taken to prevent neonatal sepsis and to get those extremely vulnerable babies through the first 30 days of their life.”

Without it, he says, “the frailest members of African society will continue to die.”

Special to The Globe and Mail

This story was produced by The Bureau of Investigative Journalism with reporting by Misbah Khan. TBJJ is funded by the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.



Children investigate the water’s edge along the Shebelle River in Gode, Ethiopia, in 2022. Sepsis accounts for one in three newborn deaths in the country. EDUARDO SOTERAS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

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

Canada needs to call out a stolen election

In an era when authoritarian strongmen weaken the democracies in their own countries and maliciously interfere in foreign elections as a side hustle, you would hope that last month's blatantly rigged election result in Venezuela would evoke more than a tepid response in Canadian officials.

But no. The most that Ottawa can muster is Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland's rote comment about having "serious concerns" about the utterly fake re-election of Nicolás Maduro, and a call by Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly for Mr. Maduro's government to release voting data that it can't possibly release without confirming that it stole the election, and to seek a "negotiated" solution.

The United States, on the other hand, has officially recognized Venezuela's opposition candidate, Edmundo González, as the election winner and is calling on Mr. Maduro to step aside to allow for a peaceful transition of power.

The Biden administration is able to be so decisive for a simple reason: Mr. González won the election. The evidence for it is overwhelming.

In fact, the only thing backing Mr. Maduro's claim to another six years in office is his government's insistence to that effect. There is nothing else. Nothing.

On the day of the election, as results poured into the country's election council, the members of which are loyal to Mr. Maduro, the transmission of the results suddenly stopped for two hours, after which the election council declared their man the winner.

By Wednesday, 10 days after the vote, the government had still not released a full tally of the results or any of the data collected by electronic voting machines, insisting that Mr. Maduro got 52 per cent of the vote, compared with 43 per cent for Mr. González.

Rather than making way for a peaceful transition, Mr. Maduro is using police and soldiers to viciously attack and arrest the tens of thousands of Venezuelan demonstrators protesting the fraudulent outcome.

Meanwhile, an alliance of opposition parties have got incontrovertible proof that Mr. Maduro not only lost the election but did so by a wide margin.

That proof comes in the form of printed receipts from 80 per cent of the country's voting machines that show Mr. González leading Mr. Maduro by an insurmountable margin of 66 per cent to 31 per cent. Those receipts have to be produced and shared publicly under Venezuelan election laws.

The Washington Post, The New York Times and other independent sources have analyzed and verified some or all of the receipts, which were collected by opposition party workers, and confirmed that Mr. Maduro lost the election by as many as four million votes.

Those findings match the results of independent exit polling, which also gave Mr. González two-thirds of the vote.

It is simply impossible to say that Mr. Maduro is the legitimate president of Venezuela, which means it is wrong for Canada to call for a negotiated resolution to this crisis. There is nothing to negotiate. Mr. Maduro must stop intimidating his own people and step down.

Canada is just one voice among many. But by failing to acknowledge forthrightly that the election was stolen, Ottawa is helping to give Mr. Maduro leeway to cling to power.

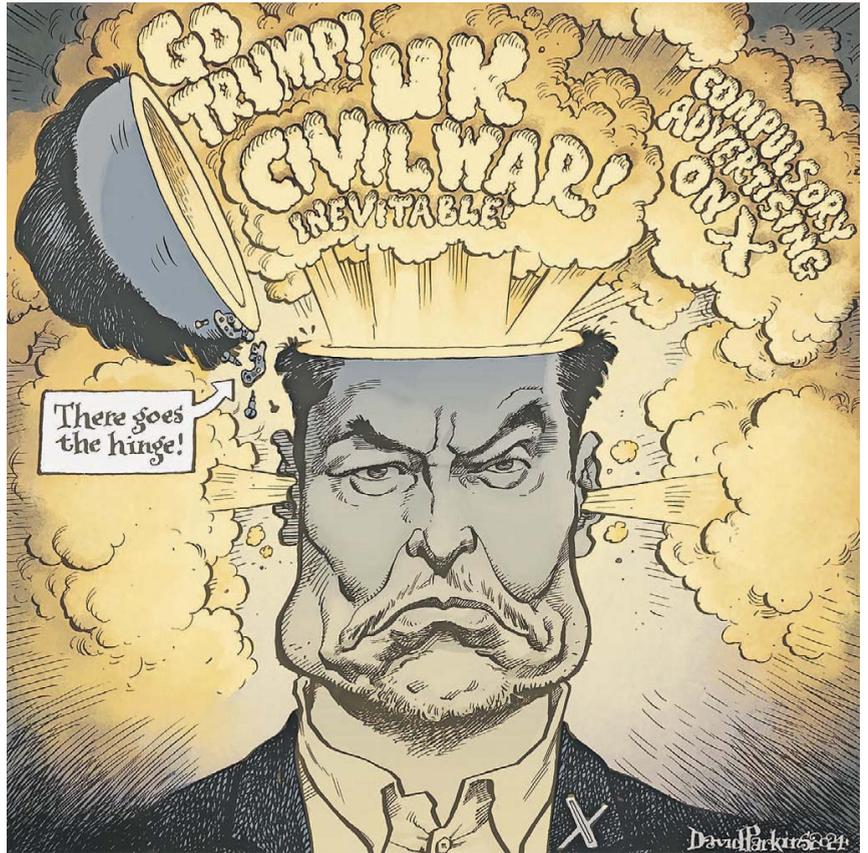
The Trudeau government needs to state clearly that the election winner was Mr. González. As a democratic country, Canada must take unequivocal stands when it sees an election so brazenly stolen by a violent authoritarian.

The government should also be more sensitive to its U.S. ally, which is still suffering through Donald Trump's attempts to discredit the results of the 2020 presidential election - efforts Mr. Trump will no doubt redouble if he loses the election in November.

It is more critical than ever for the U.S. government to insist that election results be respected and honoured by all candidates, and to stand firm when someone, in defiance of all evidence to the contrary, claims a false victory.

The Biden administration is protecting its own democracy by insisting that Mr. González is the legitimate winner of the Venezuelan election. It is also indirectly protecting Canada's, and that of every country that chooses its leaders through fair elections.

Canada should be right there beside the U.S., but it has chosen not to be. It defies logic, and it is wrong.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NORTH STAR

Re "Tim Walz's greatest asset is what he is not as Kamala Harris picks him as running mate" (Aug. 7): As a University of Minnesota graduate who spent most of her adult life in the hockey and fishing-happy state (the most Canadian of states, many say), I welcome the selection of Governor Tim Walz as the Democratic vice-presidential nominee.

He represents the best of the sometimes-maligned "Minnesota nice." He not only looks like a guy one would see in a hardware store, he is actually someone who knows what to do with supplies bought at such stores.

A country desperately in need of healing just might need such a choice. One thinks fellow Minnesotans and former vice-presidents Hubert Humphrey and Walter Mondale would be suitably proud.

■ Mary Stanik Tucson, Ariz.

PRESIDENTIAL FUEL

Re "Kamala Harris's energy policies could be her Achilles' heel" (Aug. 5): We are told that Kamala Harris's big error was supporting a ban against fracking, which "is the very reason that the U.S. can produce increasing amounts of oil and natural gas and have the relative energy independence it does."

Producing more fossil fuels will likely propel more climate change disasters such as Hurricane Beryl, the earliest Category 5 hurricane ever recorded, and wildfires in the west. Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources should be the way to have energy independence.

More people should let our politicians know that we want them to tax and regulate the fossil fuel industry and support the transition to a clean and just economy.

For starters, Canadians can write their MP to say that they celebrate the rebate every time their cheques come in.

■ Roberta Tevlin Toronto

Kamala Harris is no radical leftist. She appears to be a pragmatist who, like Joe Biden, seems to recognize that the only way to get Americans and the rest of the world to stop producing fossil fuels is to cut off demand.

Once people are confident that there are dependable, less expensive, cleaner ways to generate the power they need, fossil fuels will likely go the way of the horse and buggy. And that can't happen fast enough.

■ Liz Addison Toronto

BY EXAMPLE

Re "Canadians deserve decorum in their Parliament" (Aug. 6): I

am less concerned about the lack of decorum, disappointing as it is, as I am about the lack of substance.

Other parliaments do better. Take Britain. My brother (we both have lived there) said that he got a good idea of Keir Starmer as a leader and parliamentarian from previously watching a debate in the House between him and Boris Johnson.

In Canada, I find neither decorum nor substance as we see the government ignore questions or answer off-topic and the opposition focus on personal attacks. Issues of substance are not, understandably, being raised in Parliament.

Canadians mostly rely on the media to investigate and highlight the issues. Let's hope that our media, as it evolves, continues in that role.

■ Brian Northgrave Ottawa

HAVE TO ADAPT

Re "The lesson of the Jasper wildfire is spend less on fighting climate change, more on adapting to its effects" (Report on Business, Aug. 1): The federal government reportedly invests by a ratio of 20:1 in climate change mitigation compared with adaptation. There should be much more for adaptation, and big changes in how we live, work and travel.

For all new buildings, air conditioning and insulation against heat should be mandatory, as well as windows with built-in blinds and special glass to protect against heat penetration. We should have more public fountains, trees for shade and cooling and canopies over sidewalks and squares.

Climate change is making parts of the world unsuitable for human habitation, thus we should have international agreement for how to deal with climate refugees and how to mediate competition over scarce food and water. We should also prepare for new global pandemics caused by zoonotic viruses from damaged ecosystems.

There is much to do and little time to waste.

■ Reiner Jaakson Oakville, Ont.

JUST DRIVE

Re "It's a good thing that electric vehicles haven't caught on yet - they're inflationary" (Report on Business, Aug. 2): So are the costs of climate change mitigation, devastation and human health.

■ Alan Lawrence Toronto

After buying snow tires and insurance, the only other maintenance costs I have for my electric vehicle are windshield washer fluid and air filters.

As for being inflationary: Since 2020, I have driven more

than 80,000 kilometres, saved \$10,000 in gas and prevented 15.2 tons of carbon emissions. It is saving money and good for the planet.

■ Jorma Ikavalko
New Tecumseth, Ont.

"Don't get me wrong, the climate crisis is real." But by no means should we do anything about it that might cost money, apparently.

Ottawa's mandate to end internal combustion engine vehicle sales is described as "simply too aggressive. This is not the time to push cash-strapped consumers to adopt costlier cars." But the mandate is for 2035.

That's 11 years from now. Gas-powered cars sold in 2034 will still be on the road till at least the 2040s.

So when will the time be to stop kicking the can down the road?

Or will there always be some excuse not to do so?

Isn't that how we got here?
■ Tom Sullivan Toronto

EAT IT

Re "Why haven't kids' menus evolved past chicken fingers?" (Aug. 1): I am gobsmacked.

I grew up in a working-class Italian household and we ate whatever was prepared, and we were grateful for it. On the rare occasions we ate in restaurants, there were no "kids' menus." We ate what the adults ate.

May I suggest parents plan a trip with their children to some of the most impoverished places on the planet? Let me know how "picky" they are when their food options are limited in unimaginable ways.

Kids will eat when they are hungry. I believe parents who have "picky eaters" have created them.

Neither parents nor businesses should perpetuate this level of entitlement.

■ Lisa De Pieri
Burlington, Ont.

Re "Long live the diner: Why greasy spoons and luncheonettes are surging in popularity" (Pursuits, Aug. 3): I don't mean to be catty, but referring to Katz's, arguably the world's most famous delicatessen, as a "diner" feels akin to mistaking a feline for a canine.

For me, the essence of the essen is essential.

■ Bartley Kives Winnipeg

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

SINCLAIR STEWART
DEPUTY EDITOR

ANGELA PACIENZA
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

DENNIS CHOQUETTE
DEPUTY EDITOR,
REPORT ON BUSINESS

NATASHA HASSAN
OPINION EDITOR

MATT FREHNER
MANAGING EDITOR,
PRODUCTS AND PLATFORMS

SANDRA E. MARTIN
STANDARDS EDITOR

CHRISTINE BROUSSEAU
MANAGING EDITOR, PRIORITIES

GARY SALEWICZ
EDITOR, REPORT ON BUSINESS

PATRICK BRETHOUR
EDITORIALS EDITOR

MATT FRENCH
HEAD OF VISUALS

MELISSA STASLUK
HEAD OF NEWSROOM DEVELOPMENT


OPINION

Walz and Vance couldn't be more different

With their vice-presidential picks, Kamala Harris and Donald Trump leave voters with a stark choice to make

KONRAD YAKBUSKI

OPINION

It was not long after Josh Shapiro took the stage in Philadelphia on Tuesday, before it should have become clear to anyone unfamiliar with the Pennsylvania Governor, why Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris defied the pundits by not tapping him as her running mate, and instead introduced Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her pick at the same rally.

As his warm-up speech showed, Mr. Shapiro oozes political ambition so profusely and excels at performance politics so effortlessly that he would have been sure to upstage Ms. Harris on the campaign trail had she chosen him as her vice-presidential nominee. VPs are not sup-

posed to do that.

Democrats had ridiculed Republican vice-presidential pick J.D. Vance for recently comparing – and not in a good way – Mr. Shapiro's speaking style to that of former president Barack Obama. On Tuesday, the whole world got to see what Mr. Vance meant.

Even the Democratic commentators on CNN remarked on the “Obamaesque cadences” of Mr. Shapiro's oratory. He sounded a lot more like a Southern preacher than a Jewish guy from the upper-income Philly suburbs and said “y'all” a lot, just like Mr. Obama did when he wowed the crowds in 2008.

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Mr. Shapiro clearly worships the 44th president. But his Obama-like strut does raise authenticity issues. For that reason, Ms. Harris was probably right not to choose him.

Besides, the progressive Democratic base had made it clear that Mr. Shapiro's nomination would not have its blessing. Teachers' unions railed against his support for school vouchers. Environmentalists pointed to his support for fracking and Pennsylvania's status as the second-largest natural gas-producing

state after Texas.

Then there was Mr. Shapiro's strong support for Israel – a mainstream position within the broader U.S. political class, but a clear non-starter for progressives. One writer for The New Republic called Mr. Shapiro “egregiously bad on Palestine” and said he had “done far more than most Democrats to attack pro-Palestine antiwar demonstrators, in ways that call into question his basic commitment to First Amendment rights.”

Had she gone with Mr. Shapiro, Ms. Harris risked shattering the remarkable display of unity that has befallen Democrats since President Joe Biden announced his exit from the presidential race and endorsed his Vice-President, despite all but ignoring her for the past three and a half years.

Yet, despite all the knocks against him, Mr. Shapiro is still very popular in Pennsylvania. And Ms. Harris's decision not to choose him as her running mate will not help her chances of winning the must-win state in November. Statistician Nate Silver figures that Pennsylvania has a greater probability of tipping the election than any other state. In other words, whoever wins Penn-

sylvania is almost certain to win the White House.

By Mr. Silver's estimation, reliably blue Minnesota has zero chance of tipping the election. But in picking Mr. Walz as her running mate, Ms. Harris did signal how she might govern.

Though he spent more than a decade as a moderate Democratic member of Congress, representing a Republican-leaning district, Mr. Walz has been a staunch progressive since becoming Minnesota's Governor in 2019. His record on abortion rights, unionization, social welfare and gun control had most progressives rooting for him in the days and hours leading up to Ms. Harris's official announcement on Tuesday.

Yet, Mr. Walz also remains a virtual unknown outside his home state. His star rose when he called Mr. Vance “weird” after the Republican veep nominee's 2021 comments about the ascendancy of “childless cat ladies” in the Democratic Party resurfaced recently. But the “weird” label is likely to get tired before long. Republicans do not have a monopoly on weird, especially as most non-coastal Americans define the term.

It is not clear Mr. Walz, or

“Coach Walz” as Ms. Harris calls the former high-school teacher, can help her attract white working-class voters to the Democratic ticket. At least not more than Mr. Vance, a self-described “hill-billy” who graduated from Yale Law School and last year walked the picket line with striking auto workers in his home state of Ohio, can help consolidate Republican nominee Donald Trump's support among white working-class voters in the Rust Belt swing states that will decide the election.

Then there is this: Mr. Walz last month quipped that “one person's socialism is another person's neighbourliness.” Republicans will not let him, or Americans, forget it. On Wednesday, Mr. Trump called Mr. Walz a “communist” and “probably about the same as Bernie Sanders,” who was a card-carrying socialist before he became a U.S. Senator and two-time candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In the end, just as Mr. Trump picked his ideological double to be his running mate, Ms. Harris has chosen a progressive soul-mate as hers. The choice for Americans could not be more stark.

The Brits are rioting after being fed an anti-immigrant diet for years

CHRIS MICHAEL

OPINION

London-based writer

It's all too familiar: Brits in hoodies on a hot August day, smashing windows, torching cars and throwing rocks at riot cops. Now, as then, the trouble-makers yell loudly but vaguely about inequality and the lies of the police.

But the superficial comparisons between the 2011 riots, which swept London after the death of a Black man at the hands of police, and the current violence in England, which has followed the hideous killings of three young girls at a Taylor Swift dance class in Southport by a 17-year-old boy, don't run as deep as they might seem – and reflect a country facing a very new threat than it did 13 years ago. Back then, in what now seems like the halcyon days before Britain left the EU, the country was reeling – first from the 2008 financial crash, then from the Conservative government's austerity measures. Everybody, it was said, now had to tighten their belts. Municipal budgets were sliced in half like a magician's assistant, severing that section of the population who relied most heavily on state help.

One of the first big things to go were youth centres. So, when white police shot and killed Mark Duggan, a 29-year-old Black man, in north London after claiming he was armed, the peaceful protest about conflicting police accounts quickly pulled in younger people hanging around aimlessly. They masked up and kicked off, smashing glass and looting



A masked protester throws a can of beer toward riot police in Bristol, England, last week during a demonstration in reaction to the killings of three young girls on July 29. JUSTIN TALLIS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

stores. By the time the chaos settled three days later, the riots had caught up as many as 30,000 people, all angry at a rapidly gentrifying London.

But what's been happening in Southport, Liverpool, Manchester and even Belfast this past week looks very different. Where Londoners looted shops and were racially mixed, the gangs now attacking mosques and hotels housing asylum-seekers are almost exclusively white. And where the 2011 protests were against police dishonesty, the lies are now being spread by the mobs: that the killer of those girls was Muslim (he wasn't),

that he was an asylum-seeker (he was born in Cardiff), and that the state is covering up his real identity (he's 17, so he couldn't be legally named until it emerged in court).

If the 2011 London riots were mostly about people feeling they weren't getting a fair shake from the state, the 2024 incarnation is another thing entirely: a racist mob. Indeed, far from an uprising against the state, this violence is the child of the state, which has encouraged anti-immigrant sentiment for years. To make Brexit seem like it was working, the Conservatives had long promised to reduce annual

immigration below 100,000, which had the side effect of reinforcing the message that immigration is inherently bad. After Liz Truss destroyed the Tories' economic credibility, a desperate Rishi Sunak pulled out that old chestnut: stop the boats. Is it any wonder that some people now feel it's acceptable to chant “Get them out?”

Social media, which has come a long way since 2011, hasn't helped. A false name for the Southport killer appears to have been planted on X by a Russian-linked news aggregator, but it was the lack of controls on X, as well as Google and YouTube, that

allowed the fake news to spread so quickly.

Certain politicians can smell advantage in the acrid smoke. Nigel Farage, the leader of Reform UK, has stoked the flames, “just asking questions” about whether the police are lying, when he knows full well why the killer's name was protected. Nor has Labour rebutted the hate with the kind of denunciation it deserves: the new Prime Minister, Keir Starmer, has clenched his fist against “violent thuggery” and promised law and order, but not denounced Islamophobia.

The far right are masters of the victimhood narrative. Mr. Farage, who pushed for Brexit and then claimed it wasn't done right, will continue to just ask his questions: Sure, the rioters might be overeager, but don't they have legitimate concerns? But instead of urging poorer white families to question state funding cuts, which increased the proportion of children in poverty from 36 per cent in 2011, to 46 per cent today, the wealthy Mr. Farage will redirect their anger toward people who can't stand up for themselves.

In 2011, when the poverty of this class-riven island bubbled up organically in response to police violence, it felt like a popular, if inchoate, movement to redress inequality. What's happening now is a double tragedy. It's the same poverty, now being actively exploited by bad-faith actors. It's easier to blame “migrant crime” than a political class that has cut both taxes and spending in order to enrich corporations and disenfranchise the poor. They may have been opportunistic, but at least the rioters in 2011 knew who the bad guys were.

Bangladesh's heavy-handed prime minister is gone, but fear remains

ABDULLAH AL IMRAN

OPINION

Bangladesh author and investigative journalist based in Canada

After Bangladeshi prime minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the country earlier this week, hundreds of activists stormed her luxurious official residence. The mood was jubilant as they roamed the grounds, with some pausing to lay on her bed and hold up some of the beautiful saris (robes) she frequently wore. While the moment was joyous, it may be premature for the people of Bangladesh to celebrate.

Ms. Hasina was forced to make an undignified flight out of the country by helicopter amid escalating protests. The unrest began over a controversial quota system for government jobs. But then the Hasina government unleashed a brutal crackdown, leading to the

deaths of up to 440 individuals, mostly students. That sparked widespread calls for Ms. Hasina to resign.

Her government came to power after the 2008 elections, and it won three consecutive elections, all of which were controversial. Despite this, Ms. Hasina's rule drew acclaim in Canada and around the world for the supposed “Bangladesh miracle” of an economic boom based mainly on cheap garment exports.

But internally, over the years Ms. Hasina faced criticism for trying to suppress dissent, with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights raising the alarm about mass arrests, disappearances and surveillance of opponents and their supporters. She also lost popularity owing to recent price hikes and corruption allegations against officials holding important posts during her regime.

The army chief, General Waker-Uz-Zaman, has called for calm and promised justice for the re-

cent deaths. After he met with the top leaders of opposition parties, Nobel Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus, a respected economist, was named to lead what is supposed to be an interim government.

But the challenges are daunting. First and foremost is the need to peacefully restore law and order. Mobs have attacked the homes and businesses of people connected to Ms. Hasina and her party, the Awami League. At least 21 people were killed, including a foreign national, when a mob set fire to a hotel owned by a former lawmaker, according to local media reports.

Police, seen as defenders of Ms. Hasina's regime, are also being targeted. At least 50 police officers have been killed, and more than 400 police stations have been hit by attacks, which have included vandalism, arson and looting. Fearing their safety, police officers went on strike, which has led to widespread robbery and disorder. Despite the efforts of the army

and students, who set up neighbourhood vigils, the situation remains out of control.

Another concern is that in some areas, Hindu temples, houses and businesses have come under attack, causing fear in the country's minority communities, given their previous experiences of facing atrocities during political turmoil.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly urged all parties to respect fundamental human rights, including freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly.

Now, the big question is about political reform.

The people of Bangladesh may be happy one politician who ruled their country with a heavy hand is gone. But who will step in to take over? Who will lead the country and have the courage to tackle the widespread corruption that has strangled the economy and muzzled political freedoms? Will there be more democracy and reform, or a return to the cronyism

and crackdowns of the past?

Currently, consultations are under way between the opposition parties and the protest leaders around the formation of the interim government, which is supposed to oversee the next election. The interim government must incorporate the views of these stakeholders and balance the interests of the various parties.

Making matters worse, Bangladesh's economic future is grim, its currency is volatile, and the political unrest may deter foreign investors.

Bangladesh is at an important crossroads. Dr. Yunus called it a “second liberation.” But Bangladeshis will have to wait and see how the events that took place on Aug. 6 will be remembered.

The people of Bangladesh need to see if its new leaders can end the continuing violence, deal with political divisions, and address the troubled economy.

Until that process begins, Bangladeshis will remain in fear.

LIFE & ARTS

ARTS & REVIEWS | OPINION | PUZZLES | WEATHER

Our hearts will go on, too, Celine

The pop diva's Paris performance was a masterclass in the art of the comeback

ELIO IANACCI

OPINION

I've never been a Celine Dion fan. It's not for lack of effort: I've spent plenty of time listening to selections from her 27 studio albums and even attended the Toronto stop of her 2008's Taking Chances tour. But for so long, her performative stances, grandiose riffs and melodramatic phrasing felt, to me, as unmodern as the lyrics "Cause I am your lady / And you are my man."

My come-to-Celine moment finally arrived while watching the opening ceremony of the Paris Olympics. After staying away from the stage since 2021, Dion sang *Hymne à l'amour*, a track penned and popularized by Édith Piaf. For Dion, singing Piaf wasn't just a patriotic choice – it was, seemingly, a defiant one.

Lyrics from the song are appropriate for the Olympic context, but teem with personal affirmation for Dion herself, especially in lines such as "I will go to the end of the world" and "We will have for us, eternity." On that night, from that tower, they felt like Dion's own words.

The one-song presentation came nearly two years after Dion announced she had been diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder – stiff-person syndrome (SPS) – that rendered her unable to continue the rigour of choreography, let alone singing. The severe muscle spasms caused by the condition were so intense that they resulted in broken ribs.

Dion went on to withdraw from the public eye, cancelling tour dates and instead of being on stage or in the studio, undergoing months of gruelling physical and vocal therapy.

Her Olympic tour de force should be considered one of show business's most carefully curated road maps.

With the help of crucial artistic partners and many health professionals, the presentation was a success. It allowed for another side of her artistry to reveal itself, one which showcased just how much of a fighter Dion is.

Her comeback is reminiscent of noteworthy diva rebounds of the past. It brought to mind Aretha Franklin standing in for



Above: Celine Dion sings *Hymne à l'amour* at the opening ceremony for the Paris Olympics. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Right: Dion waves to fans in Paris before the start of the Summer Games. Her opening ceremony performance came nearly two years after she announced she had been diagnosed with stiff-person syndrome. GONZALO FUENTES/REUTERS

Luciano Pavarotti at the 1998 Grammy Awards, thundering at the constellation of stars in their seats at Radio City Music Hall, reaffirming her Queen of Soul status and legacy by singing *Nesun Dorma* just hours after learning it.

It mirrored the gamble Cher took by overtly manipulating her voice with Auto-Tune for 1998's Billboard-topping *Believe* (thus popularizing the technique as a desired effect), even though her record company staunchly warned her against releasing it.

Dion's resurgence also brings to mind Madonna's famously postponed *Celebration* tour victory lap (earning the icon more than US\$225-million), completed after she was hospitalized for a life-threatening bacterial infection.

And Dion's landmark performance offered an emotional complexity reminiscent of the quiet-yet-mighty power of Annie Lennox and her zeitgeist-changing *Diva* album of 1992 (a debut disc she released even when



execs told her that, at the age of 37, she was far too old to be a solo artist).

These divas had something to prove, livelihoods to lose, reputations to uphold. As cultural critic Wayne Koestenbaum wrote in his book *The Queen's Throat*, which analyzes some of history's greatest operatic singers: "To come back is to push against silence and ignominy, to move from seclusion and confinement into a wide open scornless space of total commitment, self-exposure, and risk."

In other words, successful comebacks don't just showcase a rise to a new career occasion; they flip the script on the perception, the pathos and the potency of diva-hood. They showcase risk. And, if done properly, they can re-imagine a persona – and win over naysayers (like myself).

In the recently released documentary *I Am: Celine Dion*, the 56-year-old speaks candidly about living with SPS and the months of setbacks she had

breathing, swallowing and walking.

She expresses on camera the pain she endures when her muscles spasm, rebelling against her. In an almost religious moment, Dion calls on what many consider the template of all divas, Maria Callas, to give her strength, while holding one of the opera soprano's necklaces (a gift from Dion's late husband, René Angélil).

Callas had her own health issues with her voice and, famously, a battle with the media who constantly tried to undermine her by focusing on her off-stage temperament, weight loss and public breakup with Aristotle Onassis, rather than on her artistic prowess.

The press has also had its tug of war with Dion. For example, tabloids often criticized her body, deeming her far too thin. When she appeared on CNN in 2005 to feverishly discuss her concerns over Hurricane Katrina, she was mocked for her passionate pleas.

Ontario Place documentary and Gaza-filmed anthology lead TIFF'S 2024 non-fiction slate

BARRY HERTZ

A new documentary about Ontario Place, the iconic cultural waterfront park undergoing a controversial redevelopment by Premier Doug Ford's government, will have its world premiere at next month's Toronto International Film Festival.

Your Tomorrow, written and directed by Canadian filmmaker Ali Weinstein, was filmed over almost 100 days, capturing Ontario Place as it stood on the precipice of major urban change, which is set to include the addition of a private spa and waterpark. TIFF organizers announced the film's premiere Wednesday as the festival unveiled its full Docs program, which includes 21 titles from 24 countries.

Your Tomorrow, which will be broadcast and streamed via TVO late this year or early 2025 after its TIFF premiere, marks Weinstein's second doc about Toronto landmarks whose legacies have been wiped away by redevelopment.

In 2020, Weinstein produced the acclaimed film *There's No Place Like This Place Anyplace*, director Lulu Wei's look at the final days of the famed discount store Honest Ed's.

Weinstein's doc will arrive at the festival about a year after TIFF announced a "pause" in its relationship with Therme Group, the private Austrian company behind the large spa and waterpark development at Ontario Place, which has raised the ire of opposition politicians and community advocates. In 2021, TIFF and Therme announced a 10-year philanthropic partnership called the Cinematic Cities, but the two are no longer working together.

Other documentaries set for their world premieres at TIFF include *Men of War*, director Billy Corben and Jen Gatten's look at a plot to overthrow the Venezuelan government; *The Last Republican*, a film from *Hot Tub Time Machine* director Steve Pink that profiles U.S. politician Adam Kinzinger as he breaks ranks with the GOP over Donald Trump; the Canadian film *So Surreal: Behind the Masks*, in which directors Neil Diamond and Joanne Robertson trace efforts to return cultural artifacts to Indigenous nations; and *Vice is Broke*, Eddie Huang's journey to explore the rise and fall of the media giant he once worked for.

Two other newly announced TIFF selections likely to spark conversation will be the North American premiere of *From Ground Zero*, which collects 22 short films shot by filmmakers inside Gaza during the current war, and the Canadian premiere of *No Other Land*, made by a Palestinian-Israeli collective of four filmmakers documenting the ongoing conflict in the West Bank.

No Other Land, which was co-directed by Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham and Rachel Szor, premiered at this past February's Berlinale film festival. *From Ground Zero*, whose footage was organized by Palestinian filmmaker Rashid Masharawi, had its official world premiere at the Amman International Film Festival last month. Yet this past May, Masharawi staged a protest screening just outside the festival grounds at Cannes, following what he

Last year, TIFF announced a 'pause' in its relationship with Therme Group, the private Austrian company behind the large spa and waterpark development at Ontario Place.

describes as the French festival's refusal to program the doc.

"I will not allow the festival to decide that we do not exist, and to exclude our voices," the director told the magazine +972. "So with many supporters and friends, I decided to force them to see us and hear us."

No Other Land and *From Ground Zero* join two other Palestinian films so far scheduled to play TIFF this year. On Tuesday, TIFF organizers announced that *Happy Holidays*, an Israel-set drama from Palestinian filmmaker Scandar Copti, and

To a Land Unknown, Mahdi Fleifel's migrant docudrama that first premiered at Cannes' Directors' Fortnight program in May, would play this year's Centrepiece program.

The films will make their way to Toronto as arts organizations across the world have struggled to find their places within the intense public division over the war in Gaza. Earlier this spring, TIFF's chief executive Cameron Bailey and chief programming officer Anita Lee released a "programming statement for peace," calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the safe return of Israeli hostages taken this past Oct. 7.

TIFF, which last week announced that Rogers Communications is coming on board as the presenting sponsor of its 49th annual festival, will run from Sept. 5-15. Organizers will announce films from the festival's Wavelengths, Classics, Short Cuts and Primetime programs throughout this week.

A couple years later, London's Observer reported that Angélil gambled as much as US\$1-million per week, igniting years of speculation that her longstanding tenure in Vegas was set in motion to pay off his tab (Caesars Palace eventually proved the claims to be false).

Also like Callas, Dion's collaborators were key to the success of her Olympic showcase. As composer and Olympic musical director Victor le Masne confirmed to the French newspaper *Ouest-France*, Dion opted out of the safety of a prerecorded vocal track – she sang live.

She also opted in to being dressed by a rebel: Dion was costumed by Maria Grazia Chiuri, the first female creative director at Dior in the house's 75-year existence. Chiuri – the mastermind behind a headline-making Dior T-shirt emblazoned with Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's famous quote "We should all be feminists" – is one of the most outspoken feminist designers to have ever worked in fashion.

Her past collections have pursued a recalibration of what she once discussed in an interview with *The Guardian* as "fashion's problem with the male gaze," even taking inspiration from the uniforms female soldiers wore in the Mexican revolution.

Partnering up with the right team to conceive a comeback for fans and non-fans such as Dion's is something to be studied. Former chart-topping artists such as Katy Perry, Justin Timberlake, Jennifer Lopez and Halsey (who recently posted she "regrets coming back" on her tumblr page) could learn something from Dion's playbook.

Without a repurposed oversaturation of familiar sounds, aesthetics or gestures, Dion's Olympic performance symbolized a healing moment for the singer, one that achieved a true victory with few critiques.

The five-time Grammy winner set herself apart from both the ceremony and her past, offering a commanding, tranquil pause in the Vegas-like spectacle happening below her. When she took to Instagram after her performance, her post seemed to speak to both the Olympics and of herself: "I'm so happy to be celebrating these amazing athletes, with all their stories of sacrifice and determination, pain and perseverance."

Indeed, her own life's narrative could not be better suited to a central theme of the Olympics: triumph over adversity.

Special to The Globe and Mail

SUGA OF K-POP GROUP BTS FINED FOR DRIVING ELECTRIC VEHICLE WHILE DRUNK

Suga, a member of K-pop sensation BTS, apologized Wednesday for driving an electric vehicle while intoxicated. His label, Big Hit Music, said Min Yoon-gi, famously known as Suga, was driving an "electric kickboard" Tuesday night when he fell while parking it. A police officer spotted him and administered a breathalyzer test, which Suga failed, leading to his licence being revoked and a fine, the label added.

An electric kickboard refers to a type of vehicle without a seat. However, police told local media Suga's vehicle had a seat and resembled an electric scooter under traffic law. The type of vehicle affects the penalty for drunk driving. Yongsan Police Station in Seoul reportedly booked him for violating the Road Traffic Act. It's currently unclear whether the police have begun the investigation process. Multiple calls to the station's spokesperson went unanswered.

The K-pop star issued an apology on Weverse, an online fan platform, saying he was driving after consuming alcohol at dinner. "I come to you with a very heavy heart and deep apologies for disappointing you with this regrettable incident," Suga wrote. "I thought complacently that it was a short distance, not realizing I was not allowed to ride the electric scooter while intoxicated, breaking the road traffic act."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Regrets with Dad? I've had a few of them

FIRST PERSON

As I learned my father was in hospital with a broken hip, all I could think of was chocolate cake, **Mark Farmer** writes

He said it as if he were a little boy, not an 86-year-old man.

"Are we having chocolate cake?"

My first instinct was to blurt out, "I bought you lunch, set it out nicely, and that's not enough?"

I bit my tongue. I'm young enough to lose my cool but old enough to know better. It was the kind of question a little boy or an old man like my father might ask if they don't understand the subtleties of a situation. The little boy will learn, but the old man has forgotten. The world is opening up for one of them, and they're picking up on things such as social niceties and expressing gratitude. The world is becoming smaller for the other as it coalesces around them, and they're less able to think and see beyond their immediate circumstances.

I was angry and it showed, but it had nothing to do with Dad. I had just received a text from my wife about an unexpected \$6,000 tax bill. I was frantically trying to think of what had gone wrong, how I managed to miss it, and how I was going to explain all that to my wife. It pushed every other thought out of my head as I walked to pick up lunch. The last thing on my mind was dessert.

Getting takeout was one of the few things I could do for him since I lived so far away. One of my sisters who still lives in town was our family's boots on the ground, shouldering the weekly slog of dad's doctor appointments, medical consultations, finances and other responsibilities.

Picking up chicken and chips a few times was the least I could do when I was around.

Visits often centred on me fixing his computer problems until dementia stole his ability to operate one. Then our time together focused on watching Blue Jays reruns, until he lost the ability to operate a remote control. At that point, he would get hopelessly mired in on-screen menus until he started falling asleep and I would steal the remote before it slipped to the floor.

In May I got "the call," the one everyone dreads but can't avoid. The first call was that he had fallen, broken his hip and was in hospital. The second was about a cancer that had been detected, and that he was considered too frail for surgery. I flew to Halifax two days later.

Funny things go through your head when loved ones are dying.

There's regret, anger, bargaining and all kinds of crazy emotions.

All I could think of was chocolate cake.

I made a little ask to the universe on the flight, to allow me to arrive in time to share a bite of chocolate cake with him. I believed I could atone for being angry if I could just get there in time to do that. That's how the human mind operates at times like these: irrationally. The cake was irrelevant, but the importance I attached to the gesture – the chance to repair a moment before it was too late – meant everything.

That plan went out the window when I arrived at the hospital. Between the medications and his frailty, he couldn't manage more than a few bites of pudding or mashed potatoes a day. Still, I clung doggedly to the idea. I needed to believe I could redeem

that moment of anger and what it represented to me if I could just share a piece of cake with him.

We all make deals with God or the universe or whatever we believe in when we're in tough situations. We blow little things out of proportion in the moment. I know full well that a stupid little piece of cake means nothing in the bigger picture, and the time spent visiting him twice a year outweighed being flustered on my penultimate visit. But little things loom large because we're irrational animals. It's just part of our makeup.

Dad died a few days after my return to Toronto. He wanted his ashes scattered near the Mira River in Cape Breton, N.S., where the family had a cottage he built with his dad. It's God's country, and I understand why he loved it.

I flew back for his service, and at some point in the coming

months I'll return to make the drive up to Cape Breton with some of my sisters, and scatter his remains. I'll do two other things: pour out a tot of the Jamaican rum he so enjoyed, and leave a piece of chocolate cake, minus a bite from me. I don't believe things we leave for loved ones appear in any afterlife, but I know that life is made of gestures, actions and intent. I know the crows, not Dad, will feast on it. But I choose to believe that simple gestures we make in this world somehow resonate in the next.

Like sharing a piece of chocolate cake.

Mark Farmer lives in Toronto.

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



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX DEADMAN-WYLIE



Snoopy is shown sitting on a pumpkin at Downey's Farm in Caledon, Ont. It is one of more than 80 farms in Canada and the United States celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Peanuts comic strip with a special corn maze. JOANNE STROM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Farmers honour Peanuts comic with corn mazes in Canada and the U.S.

MARK KENNEDY

Visitors to corn mazes across the country are finding a familiar and joyous figure in the winding labyrinth of tall stalks. Snoopy. More than 80 farms in the U.S. and Canada have teamed up with Peanuts Worldwide to create Peanuts-themed mazes to celebrate the beloved strip's 75th birthday this summer and fall.

A massive Snoopy rests on top of his doghouse in a maze at Dull's Tree Farm in Thornton, Ind., and he's depicted gleefully atop a pumpkin at Downey's Farm in Caledon, Ont.

"All of these events helps keep my dad's legacy alive," says Jill Schulz, an actor and daughter of Peanuts creator Charles M. Schulz. "As someone who can't even keep houseplants alive, the fact that they can do that with a corn maze and get the artwork right and create a fun experience for all ages is pretty incredible," she adds, laughing.

The mazes – which span 35 states and provinces, from California to New York, Ontario to Texas – are expected to attract more than two million visitors. Farmers are signing up for the free service because the mazes are part of the customer lure, in addition to things such as hay rides, fresh produce and pumpkin carvings.

Each maze is designed for the size of the farm – from 1.5 acres to 20 acres – and are mostly corn but also sunflowers. They're custom created by the world's largest corn maze consulting company, the MAiZE Inc.

Utah-based Brett Herbst, who leads the company and who launched his first corn maze in 1996, says technology has only somewhat changed the way corn mazes are made.

"The first year we did it, we just used a weed whacker with a saw blade on it when the corn was fully grown," he says. "Now we do it when it's short and we go in and either mow it or rototill it. We design it all on a computer, but most of it we actually just go draw it out on the ground by hand."

He and his team have over the years designed mazes with everything from the faces of presidential candidates, Oprah Winfrey, zombies, John Wayne and Chris LeDoux. This year marks the first time they've committed so fully to Charlie Brown and Co.

"It's very nostalgic and just seemed like a very natural fit from the get-go to embrace that with Peanuts," he says.

Peanuts made its debut Oct. 2, 1950. The travails of the "little round-headed kid" Charlie Brown and his pals eventually ran in more than 2,600 newspapers, reaching millions of readers in 75 countries.

The strip offers enduring images of kites in trees, Charlie Brown trying to kick a football, tart-tongued Lucy handing out advice for a nickel and Snoopy taking the occasional flight of fancy to the skies. Phrases such as "security blanket" and "good grief" are a part of the global vernacular. Schulz died in 2000.

There's something timeless about corn mazes and that's what excites Jill Schulz so much. They offer kids a chance to disconnect from their online life and celebrate something their parents did. "It's great to have an opportunity to just bring kids to events that are old school, because it's also important for parents and grandparents to introduce something they loved to do as a child," she says.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Day passes at hotels and resorts offer relaxation on the cheap

LEANNE ITALIE

As an independent business consultant, Jen Ford in Austin, Tex., is the master of her own schedule. Twice a month, she blocks out "me" time. In the sweltering summer, that means poolside at one of her hometown's many hotels and resorts.

Rather than check in, Ford relies on day passes, an increasingly popular option for locals and travellers alike in popular destinations around the U.S., the Caribbean and a range of other countries. She enjoys the experience so much she now books "daycations" with her two teenage daughters, out-of-town visitors and groups of friends. "It's like being a tourist in my own city," said the 46-year-old Ford.

The pandemic saw the day-pass industry leap to life at resorts, spas, water parks and hotels, from luxury to lower end, as more people craved a way to break the isolation monotony while trying to maintain social distance.

The passes are a win-win-win. Locals soak up some rest time on the cheap, travellers don't have to commit to an overnight stay, and properties make use of available spaces knowing day passers spend freely at restaurants and bars while on site for pool or spa time. Flyers with long layovers also use day passes to wait out the time, especially if they have young children who need naps. So do travellers with late flights who are forced to check out of their rooms at 11 a.m. or noon.

Among the more popular third-party bookers, ResortPass lists about 1,600 hotels and other properties in 27 countries. The

bulk of the site's users are locals, said CEO Michael Wolf. The company, which launched in 2016, has sent about three million people out on day passes, most in the past two years.

"The hotel industry looks a lot at the airline industry and has seen that it has successfully monetized so many different parts of travelling," Wolf said. "Hotel amenities are dramatically underutilized."

About 70 per cent of the day passes ResortPass offers are less than US\$65. In addition to locals, users include cruise ship guests and even cruise ship workers looking for some downtime while in port.

Cole Stanbra, 39, is an ice skater who performs on cruise ships. He also has toured the U.S. with the *Disney on Ice* show. "I look for places where I can chill and not really have to worry about doing a vigorous hike or a lot of walking. I just want to relax on my days off," he said.

Day passes cover pool time, spas and, sometimes, fitness centers. Add-ons for an additional cost might include a poolside day bed, a cabana or a day room. Some passes offer food and drink credits. Day passes may or may not include a guaranteed beach chair and parking.

Travel experts suggest a good look at cancellation policies. ResortPass allows for cancellation with a full refund as late as midnight the night before.

Other companies include DayPass, Daycation, Resort for a Day, which caters to cruise ship guests, and Swimply, which includes bookings at private pools by the hour. A day-pass seeker can also simply call a property directly.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

TODAY'S KENKEN SOLUTION

3	5	6	1	2	4
6	3	5	2	4	1
4	1	3	5	6	2
2	6	4	3	1	5
1	4	2	6	5	3
5	2	1	4	3	6

THE GLOBE AND MAIL CENTRE
351 KING STREET EAST, SUITE 1600
TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5A 0N1
416.585.5000 | GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND TECH SUPPORT
PRINT 1.800.387.5400
TORONTO 416.585.5222
GLOBE 2 GO 1.866.232.0988
CIRCULATION@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM
GLOBE2GO@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM
GLOBEUNLIMITED@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

EDITORIAL OFFICES
TORONTO 416.585.5225
MONTREAL 514.982.3065
OTTAWA 613.566.3600
CALGARY 403.245.9100
EDMONTON 780.428.8261
VANCOUVER 604.685.0308
HALIFAX 902.471.9479

ADVERTISING
TOLL FREE
ON + MAN (EXCL. OTT)
OTT, QUE, ATL
WESTERN CANADA

1.800.387.9012
416.585.5600
514.982.3050
1.800.363.7526
604.631.6608

EXECUTIVES
ERIN ADAMS V.P., HUMAN RESOURCES
KATHY CUNNINGHAM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
SUSAN KELLY V.P., INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
SEAN HUMPHREY V.P., MARKETING, PRODUCT AND DIGITAL EXPERIENCE
SALLY PIRRI V.P., PRINT OPERATIONS
JESSE LANGDON V.P., GENERAL COUNSEL/CORPORATE SECRETARY
NAFID AHMED V.P., ENTERPRISE ANALYTICS, DATA SCIENCE AND CONSUMER INSIGHTS
JONATHAN DENEAU V.P., REVENUE

NOTICES ■ **COPYRIGHTS AND TRADEMARKS** The Globe and Mail, Canada's National Newspaper, Report on Business, Facts & Arguments, Canada's Business Newspaper and Globe Toronto are trademarks of The Globe and Mail © 2017. All rights reserved. All letters, articles, comments, and other material submitted to publication may be published, displayed, distributed, retained and archived by The Globe and Mail's assignees and its licensees in whole or in part, in print or any other media and in any product or service, now known or created in the future, worldwide, in perpetuity, without compensation to the author. Any advertising published by The Globe and Mail in its publications may be published, displayed, distributed, retained and archived by The Globe and Mail, our assignees and licensees, worldwide, in perpetuity, in print or any other media and in any product or service, now known or created in the future. ■ **PRIVACY CODE** The Globe and Mail's privacy policy describes how we use your personal information and is available at globeandmail.com/privacy-terms/. ■ **COMPLAINTS** For concerns about editorial content, contact publiceditor@globeandmail.com. If you are not satisfied with the response and wish to file a formal complaint, visit mediacouncil.ca or call toll-free at 1-844-877-1163 for more information.



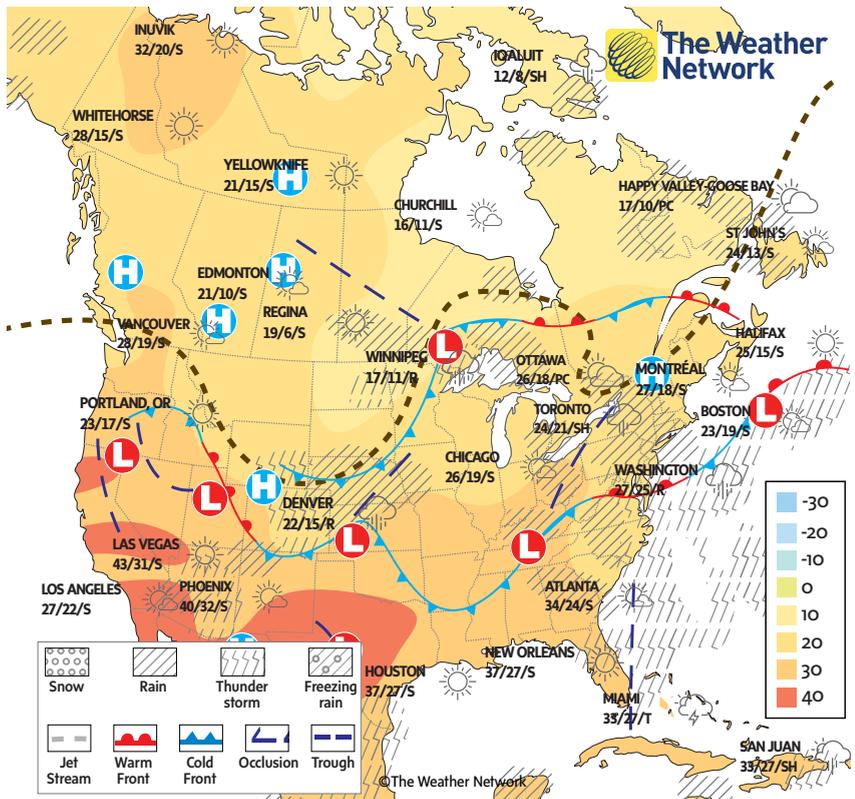
The Local Journalism Initiative (LJI) supports the creation of original civic journalism that covers the diverse needs of underserved communities across Canada. Funding is available to eligible Canadian media organizations to hire journalists or pay freelance journalists to produce civic journalism for underserved communities. The content produced will be made available to media organizations through a Creative Commons license so that Canadians can be better informed.

WORLD FORECAST

	TODAY	TOMORROW	SATURDAY
AMSTERDAM	23/18 SH	23/16 SH	23/16 S
ATHENS	34/24 S	35/24 S	35/26 S
BANGKOK	33/26 SH	33/26 SH	33/26 T
BEIJING	33/24 PC	26/25 R	33/24 PC
BERLIN	23/16 SH	25/17 PC	26/15 SH
BRUSSELS	23/18 PC	24/14 C	25/15 S
COPENHAGEN	21/16 SH	20/15 R	21/15 SH
FRANKFURT	22/14 SH	25/17 PC	27/16 SH
HONG KONG	31/28 SH	31/28 PC	31/28 T
JERUSALEM	32/21 S	32/20 S	31/19 S
LAS VEGAS	43/31 S	42/32 S	41/32 S
LONDON	22/19 PC	26/16 SH	27/17 S
LOS ANGELES	27/22 S	28/23 S	31/23 S
MADRID	38/24 S	39/25 S	39/25 S
MIAMI	33/27 T	34/27 T	33/26 T
MOSCOW	22/14 SH	21/14 SH	25/17 SH
NEW DELHI	31/26 T	32/26 T	30/26 T
NEW YORK	23/22 R	26/24 T	28/19 S
NICE	30/25 S	30/26 SH	31/27 S
ORLANDO	35/26 T	34/25 S	34/25 S
PARIS	26/18 PC	27/17 PC	28/18 S
PHOENIX	40/32 S	42/33 S	44/33 S
ROME	35/23 SH	36/24 SH	37/13 PC
SAN FRANCISCO	16/12 PC	16/13 PC	17/13 PC
SEOUL	29/24 R	33/25 S	33/25 PC
SINGAPORE	31/26 SH	27/25 T	28/26 T
SYDNEY	18/9 S	20/11 PC	18/11 SH
TOKYO	32/26 T	33/26 S	34/28 S
WASHINGTON	27/25 R	29/23 R	29/21 S

NATIONAL FORECAST

	TODAY	TOMORROW	SATURDAY
BANFF	18/6 S	20/8 SH	20/9 SH
BARRIE	24/20 SH	24/16 T	23/15 SH
BRANDON	18/9 SH	19/9 S	22/11 SH
CALGARY	19/8 S	22/9 S	22/10 PC
CHARLOTTETOWN	23/16 S	24/19 S	25/22 SH
CHICAGO	24/13 PC	24/18 R	22/18 R
CHURCHILL	16/11 S	23/14 S	21/14 S
CORNER BROOK	18/11 S	22/15 S	22/18 R
CORNWALL	27/19 S	23/20 T	25/17 R
EDMONTON	21/10 S	22/12 S	24/12 S
HALIFAX	25/15 S	22/19 PC	24/20 SH
HAMILTON	24/20 SH	25/17 T	24/16 S
HUNTSVILLE	25/19 SH	25/16 T	22/14 SH
IQALUIT	12/8 SH	13/6 SH	14/6 S
JASPER	23/8 S	24/9 SH	24/10 T
KELOWNA	30/17 S	30/15 T	29/16 S
KINGSTON	26/21 SH	23/19 T	26/18 PC
LONDON	27/20 SH	26/16 T	23/15 S
MONTREAL	27/18 S	23/21 R	25/17 R
NIAGARA FALLS	28/22 PC	24/18 T	25/17 S
NORTH BAY	25/18 PC	24/15 T	22/14 SH
OTTAWA	26/18 PC	22/19 R	25/16 PC
PRINCE GEORGE	27/13 S	29/14 S	30/15 S
PETERBOROUGH	25/20 SH	23/17 T	24/16 S
QUÉBEC	25/17 S	20/19 R	23/17 R
REGINA	19/6 S	22/9 S	23/10 S
SASKATOON	20/7 S	21/9 S	23/11 S
SAULT STE MARIE	25/16 PC	21/14 SH	18/14 R
SAINT JOHN	22/14 S	21/18 PC	21/20 R
SEPTÎLES	18/14 S	19/16 PC	18/16 R
ST JOHN'S	24/13 S	22/16 S	23/17 C
SUDBURY	26/18 PC	26/14 T	22/14 SH
THUNDER BAY	19/13 R	17/14 R	19/14 SH
THOMPSON	19/11 PC	23/14 S	26/14 PC
TORONTO	24/21 SH	24/18 T	25/17 S
VAL-D'OR	23/16 PC	22/17 R	23/13 SH
VANCOUVER	28/19 S	28/18 S	27/17 S
VICTORIA	28/16 SH	28/16 S	21/15 S
WHISTLER	29/16 SH	28/16 T	27/15 SH
WHITEHORSE	28/15 S	25/14 SH	22/11 SH
WINNIPEG	17/11 R	20/11 S	23/13 SH
YELLOWKNIFE	21/15 S	24/16 S	25/15 S



LEGEND
Daytime high, overnight low, and conditions

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

BRIDGE
BY STEVE BECKER
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

NORTH
♠ 10 7 2
♥ K J 10 9 5
♦ 9 2
♣ A 6 4

WEST
♠ K 9 5
♥ 8 7 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ J 9 8 2

EAST
♠ 8 6 4 3
♥ A Q 4
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ 10 5

SOUTH
♠ A Q J
♥ 6 3
♦ A K 7 6
♣ K Q 7 3

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1[D] Pass 1[H]
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening Lead – two of clubs.

When dummy is short of entries, it is usually just as apparent to the defenders as it is to the declarer. In such cases, the defenders should try to shape their play so as to take advantage of declarer's limited access to dummy. Consider this deal where faulty defence allowed declarer to make a contract that should have been defeated.

West led a club, and South won East's 10 with the king. The obvious suit to attack was hearts, so declarer led a heart to the jack. East won with the queen and returned a club. South took the trick with the queen, forced out

the ace of hearts and finished with 10 tricks consisting of two spades, three hearts, two diamonds and three clubs.

However, East could have prevented South from making even nine tricks. When the heart was led to the jack at trick two, he should have allowed the jack to win the trick.

Declarer would most likely take a spade finesse at this point. West wins with the king and returns a club. Regardless of how South continues, he falls one trick short of his contract, scoring only one heart trick instead of three and eight tricks instead

of 10.

East should reason that dummy's hearts are likely to be dead if he refuses to win the first heart trick. He can see that if South has only two hearts, he will not be able to establish the suit and then bring it home. West's play of the deuce on the first heart lead, indicating three cards in the suit, should cause East to adjust his defence accordingly.

Usually, the holdup play in notrump is reserved for declarer, but there are many times – and this is one of them – where the defence can adopt a similar strategy.

CHALLENGE CROSSWORD

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

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- A star drops a letter in haste (8)
 - Encore without a preference (4)
 - Attack in very bad weather (5)
 - A high post or I'm a liar (7)
 - Travel agency may be an established business (5,7)
 - Formal communication from the landlord (6)
 - The Spanish man comes first in church (6)
 - A case for the Beijing government? (5,7)
 - Regretted putting a tree in the shade (7)
 - Famous sailor died a dissolute man (5)
 - Classic flower clings to the ear (4)
 - Repeatedly hit on the forehead and intimidate (8)
- DOWN**
- The suit is in the bag (4)
 - The sentry gets a verbal warning (7)
 - Reassembled more arms in an antiquarian find (5,7)
 - State of rapture coming from nectar drunk (6)
 - Rodent that is about to become angry (5)
 - Quietly sent Lily out (8)
 - One may walk through this sort of light (6,6)
 - Bills prepared for posting (8)
 - Top people pay close regard to time (7)
 - An equestrian put out is an aggressive person (6)
 - Hint that's simply pointless (5)
 - Start the game off and win (4)

QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Shrub with showy flowers (8)
 - Male deer (4)
 - A characteristic (5)
 - Poster (7)
 - Concealed, ready for use (2,4,6)
 - Be very agitated (6)
 - Brief fall of rain (6)
 - An instructive experience (6,6)
 - Proficient (7)
 - Widespread dislike (5)
 - Large amount (4)
 - Faculty of seeing (8)
- DOWN**
- Silent (4)
 - To fight at close quarters (7)
 - Ignored, neglected (3,2,3,4)
 - A tax (6)
 - Vestige (5)
 - Small ingenious devices (8)
 - Be in charge (4,3,5)
 - Adoption of a cause (8)
 - West central US state (7)
 - With pleasure (6)
 - Sharing with others (5)
 - Leave undone (4)

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

54X	5	11+	2÷	2÷
				3-
2-	5-	3	15X	3÷
			2÷	
				2-
5+			11+	
8+			4	2÷

KENKEN

INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

©2024 KENKEN Puzzle LLC. KENKEN is a registered trademark of Nextoy, LLC. Dist. by Andrews McMeel www.kenken.com

YESTERDAY'S CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1 Haversack, 8 Units, 9 Abstain, 10 Maxima, 11 Metric, 12 Hysteria, 15 Offender, 18 Antics, 20 Apiece, 21 Atheism, 22 Draft, 23 Youngster.
DOWN: 2 Amble, 3 Entire, 4 Stitched, 5 Kuwait, 6 Riviera, 7 Asparagus, 11 Memoranda, 13 Straits, 14 African, 16 Nicety, 17 Utters, 19 Caste.

YESTERDAY'S QUICK
ACROSS: 1 Hard-nosed, 8 Earth, 9 Untruth, 10 Temper, 11 Plucky, 12 In a trice, 15 Hooligan, 18 Onward, 20 Auburn, 21 Winning, 22 Ensure, 23 Long-faced.
DOWN: 2 Annul, 3 Direct, 4 Outlying, 5 Deceit, 6 Graphic, 7 Sharp-eyed, 11 Pig-headed, 13 Annoying, 14 Bombast, 16 Israel, 17 Rwanda, 19 Range.

Innovations: Victory bell to be installed in Notre-Dame Cathedral

■ FROM A1

Thumpers have so far included actors Bruno Gouery and William Abadie from the Netflix series *Emily in Paris*, who traded thumps before a recent men's 3-on-3 basketball game. Dan O'Brien, a former American decathlete, gave the whacks before the high-jump portion of the men's decathlon, and India's shooting legend Abhinav Bindra did it before the 10-metre air rifle event.

Tennis great Billie Jean King took a turn last week before a doubles match at Roland Garros involving Rafael Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz, although she looked a little befuddled and wasn't quite sure what to do after pounding the stick.

According to the Paris 2024 website, the "tradition imposes a certain solemn and ceremonial dimension to each event, emphasizing the importance of respecting the athletes' performances." Maybe, but most spectators don't seem to have a clue what's going on, though they always give the thumpers a warm applause.

Okay, and what's up with the bell? This has really caught on with athletes and fans.

The winners of every track-and-field event get to ring a giant bell set in a metal frame at one end of the Stade de France. The bell was cast in a foundry in Normandy, and after the Olympics it will be hung in Notre-Dame cathedral, which is in the final stages of repairs from the devastating fire in 2019.

The bell is inscribed with "Paris 2024" and will be installed in the cathedral's roof in time for the first mass on Dec. 8.

"In a way, Paris 2024 is helping to rebuild Notre-Dame. A part of the Games and the Olympic spirit will remain in Notre-Dame for



Tony Hawk opens the skateboarding competition with the inaugural baton known as a Brigadier at Place de la Concorde on Tuesday in Paris. CARL RECINE/GETTY IMAGES

life," said Pierre-André Lacout, one of the Stade de France managers.

Even if most gold medalists don't know the back story of the bell, they sure love ringing it.

American Valarie Allman practically rang the bell off its rope after she won the gold medal in the women's 800 metres. So did 100-metre gold medalist Noah Lyles whose enthusiastic ringing — he gave it eight yanks — drew applause from rapper Snoop Dogg in the stands.

"It's absolutely sick, it just brings another atmosphere to it," Britain's Keely Hodgkinson told TalkSport radio after she won the women's 800 metres. "Everyone went quiet, and to get to ring that bell, it really is your moment. I forgot I would be able to do that, so



U.S. athlete Gabrielle Thomas celebrates her gold-medal victory in the women's 200-metre final on Tuesday. MICHAEL STEELE/GETTY IMAGES

ArriveCan: Daly says short list of preapproved contractors at core of procurement problem

■ FROM A1

She testified Wednesday before the public accounts committee, which is leading one of more than a dozen reviews into ArriveCan spending and broader concerns related to federal contracting. The RCMP has said it is investigating ArriveCan and other contracting matters.

Ms. Daly was a senior adviser at the Canada Border Services Agency's Border Technologies Innovation Directorate during the period that the agency launched and managed the ArriveCan app, an initially mandatory software tool aimed at facilitating cross-border travel during the pandemic's frequently changing health requirements. The app remains as a voluntary option.

Months of parliamentary hearings have also produced an unprecedented level of public finger-pointing and contradictory testimony involving federal public servants, which continued Wednesday with Ms. Daly's comments.

The border agency is conducting an internal review into allegations of contracting misconduct involving Cameron MacDonald and Antonio Utano, two former senior CBSA officials who worked with GCStrategies on ArriveCan and other projects. They've since been suspended and have criticized the investigation as lacking independence. Like Ms. Daly, they also say they are being punished for defying senior managers.

Ms. Daly said she was asked in December by CBSA investigators to be interviewed as part of that internal review, which she initially declined because she had been diagnosed with cancer.

"My director-general insisted on meeting me and told me in an MS Teams meeting to give false testimony against my former bosses," she said. "I told them I had nothing negative to say about my former bosses. If I had witnessed any improprieties at CBSA, I would have reported them immediately."

She said she felt intimidated by her former director-general Lysane Bolduc and director Tom von Schoenberg at Public Works, where she worked after leaving the CBSA.

She said she ultimately agreed to a video-conference interview with CBSA investigators on Jan. 15, which she said lasted 3½ hours.

"It was hostile," she said.

Two months later, she said she received a letter notifying her that she had been suspended from the public service for failing to adhere to procurement codes of conduct and the values and ethics code of the public service.

"I am currently on administrative leave from Public Works. I believe this is because CBSA and Public Works did not get the negative narrative expected about two former bosses at CBSA in the January 15, 2024, security interview," she told MPs.

Ms. Daly said she has recordings and transcripts that support her allegations. Brief passages of her discussions with management that she read to MPs did not provide clear evidence that she was told to provide false evidence to CBSA investigators.

Bloc Québécois MP Nathalie Sinclair-Desgagné and NDP MP Blake Desjarlais both frequently expressed frustration with Ms. Daly's testimony, saying she was not providing clear answers.

Auditor-General Karen Hogan released a report in February that found numerous shortfalls in financial oversight on the ArriveCan project. The report also expressed strong concern that GCStrategies, the main contractor, was directly involved in setting narrow terms for a \$25-million contract it ultimately won.

The smartphone application was initially launched during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic with an initial cost of \$80,000, before ballooning to an estimated \$59.5-million after numerous updates. The ArriveCan saga has also fuelled broader scrutiny of how the federal government spends billions of dollars each year on federal contracts.

Ms. Daly said the core problem with federal procurement is a short list of preapproved government technology contractors called the task-based informatics professional services list, or TBIPS. GCStrategies, a two-person company with no stand-alone office, was on that list of approved contractors.

"It's a financial nightmare," she said, calling for the program to be dismantled. She said she and other CBSA officials had been raising concerns with the TBIPS division about GCStrategies' "extremely poor documentation" since 2020.

The Auditor-General's report did not name Ms. Daly. GCStrategies' managing partner Kristian Firth initially declined to answer MPs' questions about the report's reference to his company working with federal officials on the terms of a contract that it ultimately won. The standoff led to a very unusual sanction by the full House of Commons, which found Mr. Firth in contempt of Parliament. The private contractor was called before the bar of the House of Commons to answer questions in April, one day after the RCMP searched his home as part of an investigation into allegations of contracting misconduct.

During that appearance, Mr. Firth identified Ms. Daly as his contact, saying he provided her with suggestions related to writing requests for proposals.

"It is common for government officials or technical resources to ask for specific suggestions, understanding what skill sets and what technologies they would have to be privy with to be working on an application or working on projects," Mr. Firth said.

But Ms. Daly said Wednesday that she has "no idea" why she was named by Mr. Firth.

Ms. Daly said she is not an IT or procurement expert and largely acted as an administrative go-between at the agency. She said she primarily dealt with Mr. Firth via e-mail and has no recollection of ever meeting him in person.

"Mr. Firth worked directly with CBSA IT staff," she said. "I don't even know what they were doing."

MPs have previously learned that Mr. Firth provided gifts and hospitality to Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Utano. Ms. Daly said she did not receive any gifts or hospitality and was not aware that had occurred. "If I had, I would have said something," she said. She also said she never saw either man "do anything nefarious."

Neither Mr. Firth nor Public Works nor the CBSA immediately provided comment Wednesday after Ms. Daly's testimony. Ms. Bolduc and Mr. von Schoenberg did not immediately respond to direct e-mails requesting comment.

Conservative MPs quickly seized on Ms. Daly's testimony, saying it warrants further hearings and testimony from the leadership of Public Works, the CBSA and GCStrategies.

"There are accusations of intimidation, of cover-up, of reprisal that this committee has to get to the bottom of," said Conservative MP Garnett Genuis.

But Mr. Desjarlais, the NDP MP, said he agreed with Ms. Daly's call for a serious review of the short list of preapproved technology contractors. "This is a very good example of systemic corruption," he said.

Hockey: Russian league accepting athletes from abroad is not unusual, says expert

■ FROM A1

The other three players charged with sexual assault were Cal Foote, also most recently a member of the NHL Devils; Carter Hart, formerly of the Philadelphia Flyers; and Alex Formenton, who formerly played for the Ottawa Senators but more recently for the Swiss club, HC Ambrè-Piotta.

Mr. McLeod also faces an additional charge of being a party to the offence of sexual assault.

The players will stand trial before a jury, though a date has yet to be set.

The charges against the men have yet to be tested in court and all have denied the allegations in statements through their lawyers, promising vigorous defences.

The four players in North America were placed on indefinite leaves of absence by their NHL teams and were not resigned when their contracts expired at the end of the 2023-2024 season. Mr. Dubé was initially given leave for what the team described as mental-health reasons by the Flames before the charges were filed.

Defence attorneys for Mr. McLeod and Mr. Dubé did not respond to queries from The Globe and Mail on Wednesday, nor did their agents.

The players were each released on an undertaking while they await their trial. Stephen Hebscher, a criminal defence lawyer in Toronto, said it would not be uncommon that a defendant be al-

lowed to travel provided they agree to abide to all other conditions.

Richard Arnold, an associate professor of political science at Muskingum University in New Concord, Ohio, and an expert on Russian sports and politics, said that Russia accepting athletes from abroad is not unusual.

"It's not the most effective way of thumbing its nose at the West, but it is a symbolic one," Prof. Arnold said.

An initial investigation by London police was closed with no charges filed in February, 2019.

It became public three years later, after TSN reported that the victim, known only by the initials E.M., had settled a \$3.55-million lawsuit against Hockey Canada, the Canadian Hockey League and eight unnamed players for an undisclosed amount. Amid public scrutiny, London police reopened their investigation.

In January, all five men charged were ordered to surrender to police. The next court date is Aug. 13 at which a trial date might be set. A backlog in cases, however, makes it unlikely that a trial could begin before next spring.

The KHL is considered the most elite league in hockey after the NHL. Many players rely on it to help extend or launch careers and it is not unusual for players from other teams to join one of the circuit's 23 clubs.

There are currently five from Canada and the U.S. listed on Barry Astana's roster and a half dozen listed with Dinamo Minsk.

services to protect firms from state-sponsored threats, Mr. Vigneault will work on engaging private- and public-sector organizations and advance research and development, the company said.

During his tenure as CSIS chief, Mr. Vigneault headed efforts to track and thwart what Ottawa alleges were attempts by China and other states to interfere in Canadian affairs. Beijing strongly denies all such accusations. An official probe said in May there was evidence of foreign interference in Canada's last two federal elections but the results were not impacted.

Mr. Vigneault was also a representative for Canada in the Five Eyes intelligence-sharing alliance with the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

REUTERS

FORMER CSIS DIRECTOR DAVID VIGNEAULT JOINS U.S. SECURITY FIRM STRIDER TECHNOLOGIES

OTTAWA Former Canadian spy agency chief David Vigneault, who stepped down after seven years in that post in July, is joining U.S. security firm Strider Technologies as the managing director of its global intelligence unit, the company said on Wednesday.

Mr. Vigneault had come under pressure about the spy agency's handling of foreign interference in Canada and said he was leaving public service when he retired as the director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

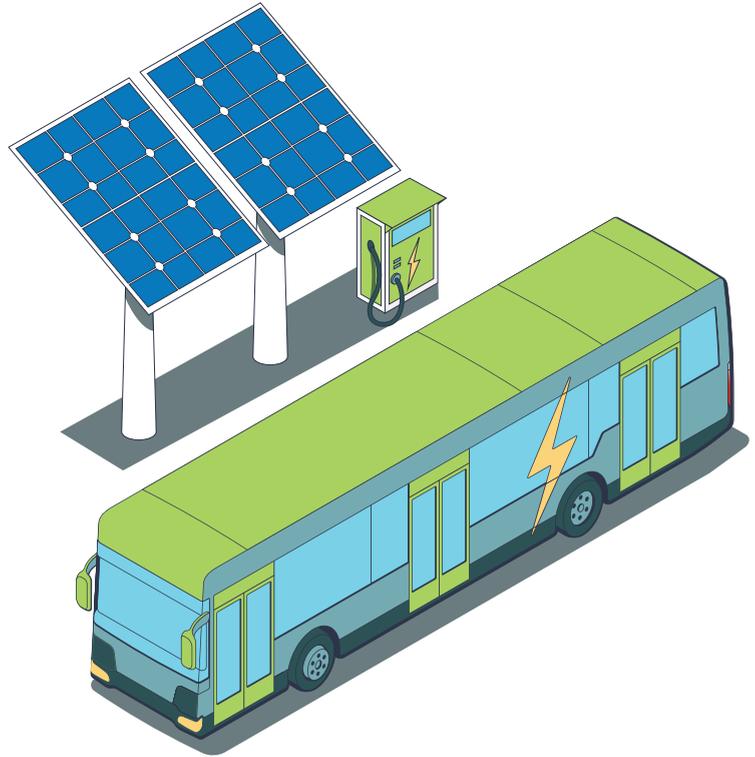
"Though my time in government is over, the threats persist, and there is more work to be done. So I look forward to continuing the fight in another way," Mr. Vigneault said in a statement.

At Salt Lake City, Utah-based Strider, which sells software and

THE GLOBE AND MAIL PRESENTS

Electric Fleets

The path to zero-emission public transportation



PRESENTING
SPONSOR

Life Is On

Schneider
Electric

FREE VIRTUAL EVENT | Wednesday, September 18, 2024 | 12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. ET

Public transit agencies across Canada have set goals to replace diesel buses and other vehicles with cleaner powertrains such as electric. With approximately 23,000 urban transit buses and specialized transit vehicles in Canada as of 2022, the shift represents a sizeable opportunity for cost and emissions savings. Still, there are issues to navigate including upfront costs, infrastructure, and change management.

This webcast will bring fleet leaders, technology innovators and net zero experts together to provide tactics and solutions to decarbonize public transportation in Canada.



MODERATOR
PETRINA GENTILE

Automotive Journalist &
Contributing Writer,
The Globe and Mail



SPEAKER
RENÉE AMILCAR

General Manager of
Transit Services,
OC Transpo,
City of Ottawa



SPEAKER
MICHAEL HABOURI

National Mobility
Segment Leader,
Schneider Electric



SPEAKER
JOSIPA PETRONIC

President & CEO,
CUTRIC

REGISTER TODAY AT [TGAM.CA/FLEETS](https://tgam.ca/fleets) OR SCAN HERE



POWERED BY



REPORT ON BUSINESS

OTTAWA/QUEBEC EDITION ■ THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 ■ GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

 S&P/TSX 21,880.95 -98.41	 DOW 38,763.45 -234.21	 S&P 500 5,199.50 -40.53	 NASDAQ 16,195.81 -171.04	 DOLLAR 72.79/1.3739 +0.29/-0.0055	 GOLD (oz.) US\$2,432.40 +0.80	 OIL (WTI) US\$75.23 +2.03	 GCAN (10-YR) 3.15% +0.04
---	--	--	---	--	--	--	---

Shopify soars after strong quarter douses investor skepticism

SEAN SILCOFF
TECHNOLOGY REPORTER

Shopify Inc. reported earnings and guidance Wednesday that doused skepticism about its revenue and profit growth at a time of heightened economic uncertainty, driving the stock to one of its best single-day performances.

The Ottawa software giant, whose platform powers about 10 per cent of all U.S. e-commerce and is sold in 170 countries, generated US\$2.045-billion in revenue in the second quarter ended June 30. That was up 25 per cent year-over-year in its existing operations.

Revenue from both subscriptions to its platform and merchant fees for other services, including payments, surpassed expectations, coming in at US\$563-million and US\$1.48-billion, respectively. Shopify's gross profit of US\$1.045-billion and US\$333-million free cash flow also beat expectations.

Gross merchandise volume (GMV), representing the amount of business flowing through its platform, was US\$67.2-billion, up 22 per cent and above analysts' expectations of US\$65.7-billion.

Shopify's stock closed up 17.8 per cent on the New York Stock Exchange, its seventh-best single-day performance since the company went public in May, 2015.

It was a landmark quarter for the 20-year-old company co-founded by chief executive officer Tobi Lutke as a snowboard e-commerce retailer, as it surpassed US\$1-trillion in cumulative GMV.

■ SHOPIFY, B6

How a stronger Japanese yen sparked three days of market turmoil

RIVER AKIRA DAVIS TOKYO

Over the past week, markets tumbled as fears ricocheted around the world about the health of the U.S. economy, tech sector and more. No market bore the brunt as much as Japan.

A key Japanese stock index, starting last Thursday, experienced its most severe two- and three-day trading drops since the 1950s – declines that analysts said could not be fully explained by the same factors affecting other countries.

Japan had one unique element exacerbating its problems. Its weakened currency, which had been inflating corporate profits and valuations, was beginning to appreciate at an alarming rate.

The turmoil has threatened one of the most enduring stock rallies in Japan in decades. Many reasons have been given for the strong performance of Japanese stocks starting early last year. Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway expressed optimism about Japan as an alternative investment to China. The Tokyo Stock Exchange ramped up pressure on companies to enhance shareholder returns.

However, as the yen strengthened over the past week, it erased much of the gains Japanese stocks had accrued this year. Investors have been left reassessing whether the much-hailed renaissance in Japanese equities was more a result of a weakened yen than underlying structural changes.

■ JAPAN, B5

{ SERVICES }



There are more than 100 companies in Alberta that offer to install solar panels, along with myriad firms supplying related services. But as demand for rooftop generation grows, so have consumer complaints. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

POWER GRAB

Surging demand for rooftop solar in Alberta is sparking what advocates call a rise in shady sales tactics ■ B2

While the Ukraine conflict drags on, some Canadian companies are still doing business in Russia

DAVID MILSTEAD

More than two years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, some Canadian companies still have operations in Russia despite pledges to exit the country or statements of support for the Ukrainian people.

While many companies rushed to get out within weeks of the outset of the war – sometimes at great cost – a Globe and Mail review found that some continue to own businesses or joint ventures in the country. The review looked at Canadian-based companies identified in news reports in

March, 2022, as having operations in Russia.

CCL Industries Inc., a Toronto label maker that is in the S&P/TSX 60 Index of large companies, still owns 50 per cent of a Russian-headquartered joint venture called CCL-Kontur.

Calgary's Calfrac Well Services Ltd. says it's trying to find a buyer for its Russian operations but is recording more revenue and profit from Russia than it did in 2021.

Restaurant Brands International Inc. has cut its ties and stopped collecting revenue from 800 Burger King franchises in Russia, but those franchisees still operate under the Burger King brand.

There is no blanket ban on conducting business in Russia. Canada's sanctions involve a ban on business dealings with specific individuals and companies. In addition, Ottawa has banned the export of certain products and services to Russia, particularly technology; the maritime transport of Russian oil at certain prices; and the import of Russian diamonds.

Instead, it's more of a moral issue, part of an international campaign – minus the support of countries such as China and India – to stop conducting business in Russia and supporting an economy that, in turn, supports the Russian war machine.

■ RUSSIA, B6

ENERGY
Ottawa funds health study into impacts of oil sands on Athabasca region ■ B2

ECONOMY
'Clear consensus' among BoC policy makers on need for more rate cuts if inflation keeps easing ■ B3

GLOBE INVESTOR
Why bonds may be the salve for investors unnerved by markets and geopolitics ■ B7

COMPANIES	
CVS HEALTH	B3
MEDICAL FACILITIES	B8
5N PLUS	B8
PET VALU HOLDINGS	B8
SUNCOR ENERGY	B5, B8
SUPERIOR PLUS	B8
UNILEVER	B3
WESTJET AIRLINES	B7

As fears focus on stock markets, a commodities rout begins to brew

TIM KILADZE

ANALYSIS

A broad basket of commodity prices has been tumbling for months, fuelled by concerns about slower growth in the world's two largest economies, though so far, the pain has been overshadowed by fears about the equity sector sell-off.

Should the commodity rout drag on, Canadians will have to pay attention, because the country's resource-heavy stock market and economy will be at the centre of any fallout. Slumping commodity prices will also dampen the prospects for merger activity, which only recently came back to life.

After rising in the first half of the year, the price of copper has dropped 22 per cent from its 2024 high, while the price of Brent crude, the international benchmark, has dropped 15 per cent from its own peak this year. Both pullbacks are sharper than the Nasdaq Composite Index's 13-per-cent drop.

And it isn't just those commodities. The current sell-off spans a broad basket of resources, touching everything from wheat and corn to critical minerals such as nickel and

lithium.

Some of this correction stems from a narrative change around the transition to electric vehicles. Metals such as copper and lithium are required for EV batteries, and the hype around an electric future implied the world was under-supplied with them. Lately, subdued EV demand has popped that bubble.

But even deeper than that are concerns about the Chinese and American economies. China has been struggling for years, starting with a multiyear lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic that froze its economy, followed by a tepid rebound once it reopened.

Until recently, investors had been willing to look past China's troubles because the U.S. economy kept humming, supported by annual deficits worth around US\$2-trillion. In the span of a few weeks, that optimism has started fading, spurred by an uptick in unemployment and recent reports about a pullback in consumer spending.

So far, the S&P/TSX Composite Index has been spared much pain, partly because gold is one of the few commodities that still has strength. That's boosted the share prices of companies such as Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd., Iamgold Corp. and New Gold Inc.

■ COMMODITIES, B6

SPORTS

■ B10-B15

OLYMPICS Golf is just another tournament for top players, Cathal Kelly writes ■ B10

OLYMPICS Canada to play Switzerland in women's beach volleyball semi-finals ■ B11

Study to assess health effects of oil sands

In Athabasca region, rates of rare cancers, autoimmune diseases and skin problems have gone up in recent years, leaders say

EMMA GRANEY ENERGY REPORTER

The impact the oil sands industry has had on the health of a remote community in Northern Alberta will be the focus of a new 10-year study receiving \$12-million from the federal government.

Fort Chipewyan leadership says that rates of rare cancers, autoimmune diseases and skin problems have skyrocketed in recent years, leading to excess deaths among people in the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, the Mikisew Cree First Nation and the Fort Chipewyan Métis Nation. They believe nearby oil sands operations are the cause, and a community-led study will examine whether there are in fact heightened risks for cancer, health complications and environmental impacts for downstream communities.

Allan Adam, Chief of the Athabasca

Chipewyan First Nation, said at a news conference that the health study is welcome news for his community, but added it has been a long time coming.

That point was echoed by Billy-Joe Tuccaro, Chief of the Mikisew Cree First Nation.

Mr. Tuccaro said that even if the federal government hadn't come on-board, his community had earmarked some of its own funds for a baseline health study that it believes should have been done decades ago, prior to development of the oil sands. "We know there is something going on," he said. "This health study, it gives me hope that future generations will have a chance."

Mr. Tuccaro said that the study will provide desperately needed answers about specific health challenges faced by the unique population, and help them improve overall well-being with programs that resonate with the community's cultural values and needs.

Kendrick Cardinal, President of the Fort Chipewyan Métis Nation, believes the health study will create a ripple effect through the oil sands industry, as an important step in reconciliation that will govern future relationships

between the sector and the community.

"Things have changed drastically here, and it's about time that something like this is happening," he said, adding that excess mortality rates have caused "a continuous death pool" in Fort Chipewyan. "Equipped with this knowledge, we will be better positioned to advocate for policies, practices and safeguards both for our health and our environment."

Federal Environment Minister Stephen Guilbeault visited the region this week to speak with members of the community about their concerns around environmental and human health risks associated with living near the Athabasca oil sands.

Those concerns were heightened in February, 2023, when Indigenous communities found out that water laced with toxins from tailings at Imperial Oil Ltd.'s Kearl oil sands mine had been seeping off the site for almost a year. Neither the company nor the Alberta Energy Regulator had informed local communities or the federal government of the issue.

Mr. Guilbeault said he heard firsthand how the Kearl mine spill has affected the community,

but also that those concerns are not new – hence the funding for the study, which will come from the departments of Indigenous Services, Environment and Health Canada.

"It's one thing to understand something intellectually and read about it or even talk to people on Zoom about it," Mr. Guilbeault said in an interview Wednesday. "It's another to sit down with them and hear their stories."

Leadership of the three nations of Fort Chipewyan will work together on the exact design of the study, including the community's objectives and the study methodology. All three communities have benefit agreements with Imperial Oil Ltd. regarding the nearby Kearl project.

The Alberta government did not respond to an invitation to support the study, Mr. Guilbeault said – something both Mr. Adam and Mr. Cardinal said was indicative of the province's continued lack of action to protect people from the impacts of the fossil fuel industry.

The province did not respond to a request for comment.

The enforcement branch of Environment and Climate Change Canada is in the midst of

an investigation into the Kearl oil sands seepage and the February, 2023, incident that brought the seepage to light. In that event, a drainage pond at the site overflowed, spilling an estimated 5.3 million litres of industrial waste water laced with pollutants into the environment.

In a July update on its website, Imperial said that measures to mitigate seeping "are working as intended and preventing further off-site migration of impacted water." Those measures include interception trenches, sumps and adding liners to on-site ditches.

It said it continues to monitor the effectiveness of the assorted measures and conduct water sampling, and will use the resulting data to enhance mitigations if necessary.

Mr. Cardinal said the ongoing leak is unfortunate, but vowed his community would continue to monitor what's going on at the site.

"We will continue to fight for our rights and our health and well-being of this community," he said. "We'll stick to it together – as three nations, and as a community of Fort Chipewyan – to hold industry accountable as best as we can."



Workers install racking to mount solar panels on a home in Calgary in July. A few years ago there were only a handful of professional installers in the province. There are now more than 100. JEFF MCINTOSH/CP

Alberta's rooftop solar boom drives questionable sales tactics, advocates warn

As the number of solar panels on rooftops in the province has grown, so has the amount of consumer complaints

AMANDA STEPHENSON CALGARY

Surging demand for rooftop solar in Alberta is sparking what advocates call a rise in shady sales tactics by those seeking to cash in on the boom.

With its sunny skies and deregulated power market, Alberta has become a hotbed of activity for Canada's residential solar industry. In Calgary alone, the number of approved microgeneration applications processed annually by city-owned utility Enmax has increased by nearly 600 per cent since 2020.

The growing demand is being driven by a number of factors, including soaring electricity rates in the province that are driving many Albertans to look into solar as a way to offset their utility bills. The federal government's Greener Homes incentive program has also helped to drive interest through its generous offering of grants and loans for home solar installations.

With the rapid market growth has come an influx in companies operating in the sector. Where just a few years ago there were only a handful of professional solar installers in Alberta, there are now more than 100. There are also many companies offering a range of other solar-related services including project management, system maintenance, financing and retail.

But as the number of solar panels on rooftops in the Western province has blossomed, so have consumer complaints.

In late July, for example, the Town of Nanton in southern Alberta warned residents to watch out for a potential scam, saying the RCMP told them someone had been knocking on doors falsely claiming to be a representative of utility company FortisAlberta.

The person was allegedly try-

ing to sell rooftop solar installations, but FortisAlberta doesn't sell solar.

It's not hard to find other stories of disreputable business practices by companies operating within the young industry.

Camrose resident Wilma Vandelaak said she recently spent months trying to get out of a contract she felt pressured to sign during a home visit by an aggressive salesperson.

"I had immediate buyers' remorse ... I'm quite embarrassed that I got sucked in so easily," Ms. Vandelaak said.

"But the thing is, they just make you feel like your house is ideal for solar. And they were very pushy. They wanted that signature."

To be clear, bad experiences are not the norm. Feedback in Facebook groups and community forums indicates the bulk of homeowners who purchase rooftop solar are pleased with their decision, and often recommend the company they worked with to others.

But Heather MacKenzie, executive director of Solar Alberta – a community of solar professionals and enthusiasts that aims to both advocate for the industry and educate the public – acknowledged she has also heard complaints, stemming from overly aggressive door-to-door salespeople to false advertising to outright fraud.

Solar Alberta has its own code of conduct with respect to things like advertising and door-to-door sales tactics. But membership is voluntary, so the organization has no way to discipline companies that choose to operate outside its standards.

"There are 150 good practitioners around the province," Ms. MacKenzie said. "But you have one or two bad actors who are primarily non-members who are souring things for 150 good actors."

According to the Alberta government, the province's consumer investigations unit has noticed a recent "uptick in complaints received about companies that sell products and services door-to-door related to solar energy."

Most of these complaints likely

stem from consumers who have been pressured at the door to immediately sign a contract that they then can't get out of, or from those who have been promised too-good-to-be-true rates of return, said Greg Sauer, vice-president of business development for SkyFire Energy, Calgary's largest and most established solar installation company.

Mr. Sauer said not every home is a good candidate for residential solar – but you'd never know it based on the sales pitch some companies are using on vulnerable homeowners.

"One customer [I'm aware of] was sold essentially a north-facing solar system. The economics were terrible," Mr. Sauer said, adding he urges anyone considering solar to get multiple quotes and to be wary of lines like "you will never again have to pay an electricity bill."

In 2017, Alberta banned the door-to-door sales of furnaces, hot water tanks and other related energy products in response to complaints by homeowners about fraudulent activities and misleading sales tactics.

Mr. Sauer said he'd like to see that ban extended to residential solar to protect consumers.

But Jordan Forsythe – whose solar installation company Boreal Connected Homes Ltd. uses door-to-door sales to attract new customers – said he believes that wouldn't be fair to the vast majority of honest players who are simply trying to build a business in a competitive field.

One solution, said Brian Scott of Calgary-based solar installer Solar Dev, could be for the province to grant regulatory authority to Solar Alberta so that it can take action to enforce stronger rules within the industry.

In the meantime, he said, he is fearful of the reputational damage a few bad actors could be doing to his industry. He worries that Alberta could be following in the footsteps of certain U.S. jurisdictions, where a rooftop solar "gold rush" has been followed by a wave of solar-company bankruptcies and consumer lawsuits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paris Olympics put a dent in Air Canada sales as some avoid France

CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS MONTREAL

Air Canada may be the official carrier of Team Canada, but that didn't stop the Paris Olympics from hobbling its summer sales.

Despite Canadians' continued thirst for Mediterranean getaways, the airline's transatlantic ticket proceeds suffered in its latest quarter as travellers from France and Germany opted to stay on the Continent to soak up the Olympic Games as well as Euro 2024.

"Core Europe, markets like France, Germany, where there's a significant point-of-sale Europe component, that was quite weak," said Mark Galardo, Air Canada's head of revenue and network planning. "The Olympics and a bit of the Euro soccer tournament all contributed to some of those declines."

The distracting athletics along with a glut of Atlantic flights from competitors helped prompt Air Canada to cut its capacity for trips across the pond, Mr. Galardo said.

While the Olympics are typically a tourism boon, many vacationers opted to steer clear of the City of Light, with parts of central Paris closed off for the duration of the games.

"A number of travellers have decided to try to avoid France during the Olympics," said analyst Chris Murray of ATB Capital Markets.

The weaker demand contributed to Air Canada's 51-per-cent year-over-year dive in profit last quarter – even while revenues rose.

"Our second-quarter results were solid, although they did not achieve our internal expectations," CEO Michael Rousseau told analysts on a conference call Wednesday.

Higher capacity and strong demand for international flights drove year-over-year revenue growth of 2 per cent to US\$5.52-billion in the quarter ended June 30. But revenue-per-seat figures dropped compared with the year before, when soaring demand after pandemic restrictions lifted and lower capacity across the industry made for fuller planes, higher fares and wider profit margins.

As a result, net income in Air Canada's second quarter fell to US\$410-million from US\$838-million a year earlier.

Operating expenses that stood 9 per cent above last year's also helped account for the plunge, as the cost of jet fuel and labour rose, chief financial officer John Di Bert said.

Despite ongoing growth, Air Canada's rebound since COVID restrictions lifted remains incomplete four-and-a-half years after borders closed and lockdowns began.

"We're still not back to 2019 levels in terms of scale and the size of the airline," Mr. Di Bert said.

Air Canada's adjusted earnings notched slightly lower last quarter than in the same period five years earlier. The size of the carrier's fleet is also smaller with 356 planes as of June 30, compared with 400 in the second quarter of 2019, although many of the scrapped aircraft were smaller, older and less efficient. Air Canada shares slid 1.39 per cent to close at US\$14.93 on Wednesday, a closing price not seen since October, 2020.

Earlier this year, executives said corporate travel, which is more lucrative for airlines than leisure traffic, would help fuel profits in 2024, even as pandemic habits of video conferencing and remote work proved tough to shake.

As rivals flocked to transatlantic routes, Air Canada dialled down its service there and ramped up Pacific flight volumes by a third.

In its outlook Wednesday, the airline said it plans to increase its flight capacity in the third quarter by between 4 and 4.5 per cent compared with the same quarter in 2023.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WESTJET SAYS 10 PER CENT OF FLEET GROUNDED AFTER HAILSTORM IN CALGARY

WestJet says 16 of its planes have been grounded after a massive hailstorm hit Calgary earlier this week.

The Calgary-based airline says those aircraft – 10 per cent of its fleet – need substantial repairs and inspections before they can fly again.

The carrier also says 84 of its flights were cancelled Wednesday, with 106 cancelled Tuesday and 58 on Monday.

The Calgary International Airport was pummeled by hail on Monday evening, forcing parts of its domestic terminal to close for repairs for an undetermined time.

A video taken by one traveller shows water pouring from the ceiling by a boarding gate, with chunks of what appear to be tile crashing to the ground.

A spokeswoman for Air Canada says its Calgary operations have returned to normal and it was able to schedule its largest planes to transport stranded passengers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Experts say Musk's antitrust lawsuit against advertisers holds water

IRENE GALEA BERLIN

A day after Elon Musk's X sued a coalition of companies alleging anti-competitive behaviour for not advertising on his social-media platform, experts say the facts in the case suggest the advertising association's actions may indeed constitute an illegal boycott.

X, formerly Twitter, filed a lawsuit against the World Federation of Advertisers, and claimed the coalition and several companies under its umbrella conspired to deprive it of billions of dollars by withdrawing their advertisements from the site following Mr. Musk's purchase of the company in 2022.

Numerous lawyers on Wednesday told The Globe the lawsuit's allegations suggest the accused parties did cross the line between individual company decision and illegal collaboration. But the San Francisco-based social-media company will need to prove more than the alleged agreement among the advertisers to get the damages it is claiming.

In the antitrust lawsuit, filed by X in Texas court Tuesday, X claims that several global companies were part of an organized agreement involving an initiative called Global Alliance for Responsible Media (GARM), whose stated goal is to address the challenge of monetizing harmful content on social media through advertising.

GARM was established in 2019 by the World Federation of Advertisers, a trade organization representing 90 per cent of global marketing communications spending - roughly US\$900-billion a year - according to its website.

Barak Orbach, a law professor at The University of Arizona, said that if the complaint's statements are correct, GARM had been "shockingly sloppy" in allegedly requiring members to relinquish independent decision-making in certain contexts.

In its legal filing, X alleges a precondition of signing up as a member of GARM was a commitment to withhold advertising from platforms determined by the organization to be non-compliant with the brand safety standards. The company claimed GARM told its members X deviated from its brand safety standards.

Douglas Ross, a professor at the University of Washington School of Law, said the filing is full of evidence, including e-mails between companies, that the decision to withdraw from X was collective. "X has got a claim here that is going to be difficult to dismiss. That there is an agreement seems beyond doubt."

"When you collectively do this with your competitors, that's where the issue [is]," said John Yun, an associate professor of Law at George Mason University. "The courts will ask, couldn't you have done this through less restrictive means?"

While he said he doesn't believe the behaviour will ultimately be ruled illegally anti-competitive, he expects the case to be "messy."

Rebecca Haw Allensworth, a professor at the Vanderbilt Law School in Tennessee, said cases like this often fall apart on proof of agreement. While X alleges potentially strong evidence the brands engaged in an exchange of promises, "the devil is always in the details," Prof. Allensworth said. "The legal bar to show conspiracy is notoriously high, and very fact specific."

To claim damages, X will have to convince the judge that the agreements harmed competition. According to Prof. Orbach, the company's allegations in its filing are "hyperbolic and some are legally incorrect."

The lawyers agreed that while X could claim damages, it cannot force companies to advertise on its platform.

The lawsuit reflects rising debates about whether, and to what degree, companies should agree on standards that go beyond what is mandated by the law. While companies - which often group together in trade associations with certain protections - may argue that setting standards protects consumers, it can be difficult to legally establish a company's intention between "good behaviour" and antitrust behaviour.

Aside from the World Federation of Advertisers, the suit names global food producers Mars Inc., Unilever PLC, American pharmacy chain CVS Health Corporation and Danish energy company Ørsted A/S. X is seeking damages and a court order against companies that conspire against it in the future.

The defendants have yet to file a response to the complaint. Spokespeople for the World Federation of Advertisers and Ørsted declined to comment. Mars, Unilever and CVS did not respond to requests for comment.

In 2022, after Mr. Musk bought X in a controversial acquisition deal, some advertisers became wary of advertising on the platform, amid concerns about the company's approach to taking down harmful content. The majority of X's revenue comes from advertising, and in the first year after he purchased the company, its ad revenue dropped by 53 per cent year-over-year.

Since acquiring the company, Mr. Musk has promised to uphold the values of free speech on his platform. X has revoked bans on extremist content, censoring journalists and removed the "blue check mark," a feature which identifies verified users.

In July, Mr. Musk reposted a post on X that features a deep fake of Vice-President Kamala Harris's voice, without stating that the representation had been digitally reproduced and was not legitimate. He also endorsed an antisemitic conspiracy theory on the platform, later apologizing for doing so. Mr. Musk has endorsed Donald Trump for president.

STRONACH, CHARGED WITH SEXUALLY ASSAULTING 10 PEOPLE, CLAIMS ACCUSERS WANT HIS MONEY

Frank Stronach, the billionaire businessman charged with sexually assaulting 10 complainants, has broken his silence in an interview with CBC's *The Fifth Estate*.

In clips aired by the CBC, the 91-year-old claims his accusers are pursuing the cases against him to take his money.

The *Fifth Estate* also broadcast clips of an interview with one of the 10 complainants, who alleges she was raped by Mr. Stronach in 1980, when she was 20 years old and worked as a horse groomer at one of his stables.

Mr. Stronach was initially charged in June with five sex-related offences involving three complainants, then followed by another eight charges involving seven complainants.

Court documents show the charges include rape, attempted rape, indecent assault, forcible confinement and sexual assault, and relate to alleged incidents dating as far back as 1977 and as recently as this year.

In the CBC interview, Mr. Stronach claims the state of the economy might have motivated his accusers to pursue the cases against him.

"It's poverty - what the problem is," he said.

The woman interviewed by the CBC, who concealed her identity, alleges she was raped by Mr. Stronach and says he "took away my fire."

"I had let it fester for a really long time," she said.

Mr. Stronach became one of Canada's wealthiest people as the founder of auto parts giant Magna.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem, pictured in June, and his team believe economic growth will pick up over the back half of 2024 and into next year while inflation drifts lower. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Clear consensus' on need for more rate cuts, BoC says

Policy makers are becoming more worried about weak economic growth

MARK RENDELL

There is a "clear consensus" among Bank of Canada policy makers that more interest rate cuts will be appropriate as long as inflation continues to decline as forecast, according to a summary of the latest monetary policy discussions.

The document, published Wednesday, captures an important shift at the central bank, which cut its policy interest rate by a quarter point on July 24. Members of the governing council are becoming less concerned about a rebound in inflation, and more worried about weak economic growth and possibly overshooting the bank's 2-per-cent inflation target on the way down.

Governor Tiff Macklem and his team still believe economic growth will pick up over the back half of 2024 and into next year while inflation drifts lower. But they're becoming more attuned to downside risks that could tip the Canadian economy into a recession and jeopardize a soft-landing.

"There is a risk that consumer spending could be significantly weaker than expected in 2025 and 2026 given the number of households likely to be renewing their

mortgage at higher rates," the summary says.

"Further weakness in the labour market could delay the rebound in consumption, putting downward pressure on growth and inflation."

High inflation has become a less pressing concern. The annual rate of consumer price index growth has been below 3 per cent since the start of the year and was 2.7 per cent in June - a far cry from the 8.1 per cent reached in mid-2022. Some prices continue to rise quickly, notably for rent and some services. But over all, the central bank's policy makers "felt increasingly confident that the ingredients for price stability were in place."

The Canadian economy, meanwhile, is buckling under the weight of restrictive interest rates. Consumer spending is tepid, unemployment is rising and GDP growth is weak over all and negative on a per-capita basis.

This combination of falling inflation and economic stagnation prompted the bank to deliver back-to-back rate cuts in June and July, bringing the policy rate down to 4.5 per cent from 5 per cent.

The bank remains tight-lipped about the pace of future interest-rate cuts, and the summary cautioned that "there was no predetermined path for the policy rate." However, markets have upped their bets on another cut in September and are now pricing in the possibility of cuts in October and December as well.

Over the past week, traders

have piled into bets on faster monetary policy easing after surprisingly weak employment data in the United States, which stoked fears of a recession. Shifting market sentiment about the U.S. economy also sparked a huge sell-off in global stock markets on Friday and Monday.

For the Bank of Canada, there are signs that inflation should continue to move lower. The economy remains in "excess demand," and there is growing slack in the labour market, seen in the decline in job postings and the rise unemployment rate to 6.4 per cent from 4.8 per cent two years ago.

Moreover, the bank appears to be less concerned that inflation could be knocked off course by a rebound in real estate prices as interest rates fall: "Housing resale activity had been slower than expected," the summary notes.

Still, some members of the governing council remain cautious about waning inflationary pressures: "The output gap could currently be smaller than assumed, and excess supply could be absorbed quickly when growth picks up," the summary says. Meanwhile, strong wage increases "could lead to persistent price pressures for many services."

The overall outlook for economic growth and inflation is being clouded somewhat by uncertainty around the pace of population growth, in light of federal government caps on non-permanent residents announced earlier this year, the summary says.

BUSINESS CLASSIFIED

TO PLACE AN AD CALL: 1-866-999-9237 EMAIL: ADVERTISING@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

DIVIDENDS

DIVIDEND INFORMATION

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of The Empire Life Insurance Company (Empire Life) has declared the following dividends:



Issue	Record Date	Payable Date	Rate
Common Shares	August 16, 2024	September 10, 2024	\$20.31
Non-Cumulative Rate Reset Preferred Shares, Series 3	September 17, 2024	October 17, 2024	\$0.3866875



DIVIDEND NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Centerra Gold Inc. has declared a dividend of Cdn\$0.07 per common share payable on August 29, 2024 to shareholders of record on August 15, 2024.

The dividend is an eligible dividend for Canadian income tax purposes.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Yousef Rehman
General Counsel & Corporate Secretary

Toronto, Ontario
August 8, 2024

NOTICE TO ALL THE HOLDERS OF COMMON SHARES OF RECORD ON AUGUST 22, 2024

On August 1, 2024, Gildan Activewear Inc. (the "Corporation") announced that its Board of Directors declared a dividend of USD \$0.205 per common share (Canadian dollar equivalent for Canadian registered shareholders) on all outstanding common shares of the Corporation. Such dividend will be paid on September 16, 2024, rateably and proportionately to the holders of record on August 22, 2024.



The Board of Directors of TMX Group Limited declared a dividend of \$0.19 on each common share outstanding, payable on August 30, 2024 to shareholders of record at the close of business on August 16, 2024.

Cheryl Graden
Chief Legal and Enterprise Corporate Affairs Officer and Corporate Secretary

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

For Sale

Value-Add Multifamily Investment Opportunity
810 QUELLETTE AVENUE,
WINDSOR, ON

- 112 residential units with 90 parking spaces & two retail units at grade
- 95% Occupied
- Located in the heart of downtown Windsor, steps away from public transit and is 350 meters from the Canada Tunnel Plaza



416 862 1800

MATTHEW JOHNSTON*
matthew.johnston@cushwake.com

JAMESON LAKE*
jameson.lake@cushwakewo.com

HENRY STEVENSON*
henry.stevenson@cushwake.com

*Broker/Sales Representative

Cushman & Wakefield ULC, Brokerage

Try Globe2Go - the digital replica of our newspaper

Visit tgam.ca/globe2go or download the Globe2Go app to your smart device

OPINION & ANALYSIS

Canada's temporary worker policy lacks vision

It is imperative that the government moves to restore Canadians' confidence in our immigration system

ANNE MICHÈLE MEGGS

OPINION

Former director of planning and accountability for the Quebec ministry responsible for immigration and author of *L'immigration au Québec: comment on peut faire mieux*

Will the news that Ottawa is considering barring certain employers from the temporary foreign worker program make a difference to its long-beleaguered immigration policy? That remains to be seen.

The government's move is part of its plan to reverse many decisions that have led to the serious negative consequences of the mismanagement of the immigration system over the past 10 years. The main stated objective is to reduce the proportion of non-permanent residents (those with work or study permits and asylum seekers) to 5 per cent of the Canadian population by 2027, a target experts consider unattainable.

However, is the growth of a population with a certain immigration status the only problem the government needs to resolve? Or is it the increasing size of the population in general? Or the number and pace of arrivals, whatever their status? Or the skills and skill-levels of the people who are arriving? Or the age pyramid?

There was no vision in the immigration policy that got us into this conundrum, and there is no obvious vision for bringing immigration policy back under con-



The government's main stated objective is to reduce the proportion of non-permanent residents to 5 per cent of the Canadian population by 2027, a target experts consider unattainable. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

rol. For public policy to be effective and reinforce confidence in government, the public must understand and relate to the problems that the policy is attempting to address and feel intuitively that the government has the issue under control. Canadians these days sense that this is no longer the case for immigration policy and this is dangerous for social cohesion.

Kofi Annan, former secretary-general of the United Nations, in 2006 called for "triple wins – for migrants, for their countries of origin, and for the societies that receive them." It is time for a realistic public strategy with clear and measurable "triple wins" that are understandable and meaningful to the Canadian public.

It is legitimate, and essential to

ensuring support for policy decisions in this field, that governments prioritize their own countries' economic and social interests. That being said, equity dictates that the advantages of immigration be felt by all. Increasing numbers will grow the overall economy, but not necessarily the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita. Also, the pace of arrivals should not put strains on the housing supply or the social safety net.

As for the immigrants themselves, is it a "win" for them to be living with temporary status for years on end? They are literally second-class citizens, without the same rights as those with permanent status, nor access to the same services. The threat of removal hangs constantly over their heads for fear of a tempora-

ry permit not being renewed or even being renewable or a refugee claim not approved. It's impossible to plan a life and family in these circumstances. The temporary foreign workers program has been characterized by a United Nations rapporteur as a breeding ground for contemporary forms of slavery, but all non-permanent residents are easy targets for abuse and exploitation.

Temporary immigration leads to undocumented workers because many take the chance of staying even if their permit has expired, or their claim refused. (The government keeps whatever information it has on this phenomenon and enforcement efforts close to its chest.)

It leads to more families being split up for longer because generally one parent or spouse will ar-

rive first and, if and when permanent residence is obtained, apply to bring in the other dependents. Permanent residence applications automatically include all members of the immediate family.

What is a win for the countries of origin? What are the impacts of inciting to Canada the best and the brightest students from developing countries with the deceiving promise of permanent residence? Or recruiting health care workers from abroad when the projected shortfall of health personnel in the world is 10 million by 2030, mostly in low- and lower-middle-income countries? On the other hand, we mustn't forget the importance of the funds immigrants send home. Remittances account for nearly 4 per cent of the GDP for low-income countries.

And how should we react to situations of conflict or catastrophe? Improvisation in this area has led to hugely divergent policies. The uncapped Ukrainian response resulted in more than 900-thousand temporary visas being approved. Maybe we should consider ourselves lucky that "only" 300-thousand actually arrived before the cut-off date. The policy responses for Moroccans, Syrians, Sudanese and Gazans have varied significantly in numbers and conditions.

It is imperative that the government move to restore Canadians' confidence in our immigration system. Clear, manageable and measurable objectives related to all aspects of immigration will be critical.

The strategy must be accompanied by a multiyear (five-year, for instance) government-wide operational plan providing for provincial collaboration. Ideally, this approach would be multipartisan, so that the upcoming election campaign doesn't become a war of simplistic catchphrases and unviable promises related to immigration. Then we all win.

New foreign investment restrictions put Canada's mining sector at risk

LOUI ANASTASOPOULOS

OPINION

Chief executive of the Toronto Stock Exchange and global head of capital formation of TMX Group

It's an unfortunate truth: Canada is facing economic challenges, including weak growth and productivity, stemming from declining investment in our key industries. The investment shortfall is particularly acute in the mining sector, where Canada's proud and prominent legacy of global leadership is under serious threat.

In addition to stifling macroeconomic factors and high interest rates, sudden shifts in government policy have created uncertainty around capital raising for mining companies. And the most recent federal policy directive on foreign investment into Canada's critical mineral companies has the potential to be the most harmful yet.

Over the past few years, the government has, under the Investment Canada Act (ICA), placed increasingly stringent restrictions on investment from foreign state-owned entities into Canadian critical minerals companies. While the purpose of these restrictions is to protect Canada's national-security interests – an important consideration and not one we are debating – the fact is they have created serious financing challenges for mining companies by limiting access to large sources of global capital.

As Canadian metals and minerals companies look for financing and sources are ruled off-limits, this has resulted in a "capital gap." Now, the most recent policy directive compounds existing challenges and the gap is set to increase.

On July 4, François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, issued a Ministerial Statement to provide more clarity around how Net Benefit reviews under ICA will be conducted when it comes to foreign acquisitions of Canadian critical minerals companies that exceed the net benefit value thresholds.

We appreciate that the government's goal was to make its guidance clearer – clarity is crucial to companies and investors seeking to understand their options with regards to financing, and mergers and acquisitions (M&A). Unfortunately, this announcement has had the opposite effect: leaving much undefined and open to interpretation.

The minister stated the restrictions will apply to "important Canadian mining companies" that are "engaged in significant critical minerals operations." But what are the criteria for defining a "significant" investment or an "important" company?

If a company is not "important" now, but then it grows – in fact, half the mining compa-

nies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange are graduates from the Venture Exchange, which lists emerging players – how might that affect their financing options later on?

Could investments made at an earlier stage, when a company is beneath a certain size threshold, become locked-in if the company grows and can no longer be sold outside of Canada?

Furthermore, what does it mean to be "engaged in" critical minerals operations? Must a company have ownership control, or does this definition also capture a minority stake or a joint venture?

If these questions are left unanswered, the impacts on the industry could be profound – and in the long term, even existential.

Canada is a nation rich in natural resources. We also have a proven track record for growing small companies into global success stories. Toronto Stock Exchange and TSX Venture Exchange list more mining companies than any other exchange in the world – more than 1,100 of them – and approximately half the projects owned by these companies are located outside of Canada.

Today, much of the economic activity related to Canada's extractive industries reaches beyond our borders. Mining is a global industry, and the country has maintained a leadership position not only because of the minerals here but also because we have built an ecosystem of entrepreneurs, investors, lawyers, bankers and other sector experts that enable mining companies to grow and succeed globally.

This is important for policy makers to consider because these companies can leave – taking jobs and economic output with them. It also means that new companies, instead of incorporating and listing in Canada, long known as the leader for financing junior exploration projects, will choose another jurisdiction.

Government actions like this latest policy direction highlight the importance of consulting with the affected industry to avoid unintended consequences – particularly when the industry in question is highly complex, globally interconnected and of central importance to our country's economy and place in the world.

The industry's future in Canada – as well as our capacity to extract the critical minerals needed to transition our energy supply – depends on closing the capital gap. An important step toward doing that is providing clarity: a clear understanding of the defining traits of permitted operations, projects and M&A opportunities for Canadian mining companies, both those operating within and outside of our borders.

We hope to see our policy makers act as partners to industry and help create the capital-raising environment that mining companies need to thrive.

MATT HOLLAND

OPINION

Chief executive and founder of Field Effect, a global cybersecurity solution provider based in Ottawa. He started his career with the Canadian Security Establishment (CSE).

The last thing I expected when I woke up on July 19 was that a large portion of the world's computers would be in what we tech nerds call the "blue screen of death state," (BSOD), especially as it was due to an entirely preventable crash.

The incident was caused by an update pushed out by one of the world's largest cybersecurity companies, CrowdStrike. Computers that used its software were rendered inoperable.

This was obviously an unacceptable event for the planet, with the cost in downtime estimated at billions of dollars and the impact on human lives immeasurable.

Some tech experts have reacted by saying that Microsoft made a mistake allowing security vendors such as CrowdStrike into the "Windows Kernel." I disagree.

First, let me explain what a kernel is. A kernel is the portion of an operating system where highly privileged, protected instructions reside, typically constituting the bulk of the operating system.

The advantage of accessing this space for security vendors is that we can easily monitor for, and detect, malware doing bad things, and ideally take action, such as blocking a malware implementing a ransomware attack. The downside is the situation in July – that if a security vendor introduces a particularly bad bug, there is a risk the host computer will crash.

Microsoft is a unique vendor in that its flagship operating system, Windows, has historically been the most open and commercialized platform for vendors of all types to build upon. It allows hardware vendors to write kernel drivers (operating system extensions) that support hardware. It allows security vendors to write drivers to provide cybersecurity

value-add (i.e. the protection from attackers that their customers desperately need).

Pulling security vendors out of the Windows kernel is a rational reaction given the impact of the CrowdStrike incident – but it's a surface-level reaction that won't have the outcome that supporters think it will.

It will, in fact, weaken security providers' ability to protect and defend against hackers.

Before founding my own cybersecurity firm, I was with Canada's digital intelligence agency, part of a world-class team that built incredible offensive capabilities that could quite literally hack into almost any server, desktop or mobile phone on the planet.

The platforms that provided cybersecurity vendors with limited access to the kernel were the easiest to hack. Just look at how simply NSO Group, the Israeli cyberintelligence firm, continues to build attack-chains that can hack phones around the world, and they aren't the only ones.

This is because no systems are perfect. There will always be "exploits" that allow attackers to get inside. To counter that, one of the key principles of defending an operating system is having a level of visibility or access that is at least equal to what an attacker can attain.

Windows grants security vendors this kernel access, enabling their ability to observe and defend. If we remove security vendors' kernel access, those types of attacks/exploits would be almost impossible to detect and defend against.

Overreacting because of one vendor's serious mistake, without considering real world data and realities, does not lead to a better outcome for the world.

Rather, this issue is about company culture, developer experience and development mindset – which are what lead to great stable code. Excellent quality assurance, well-designed architectures and rollout procedures that assume the worst, are what lead to stable operational outcomes.

Those who buy cybersecurity technology should be demanding these things, because it is these things that matter.

Japan: Yen's slide was primarily caused by large gap between interest rates with U.S.

FROM B1

"Why was the rapid downturn so much worse in Japan than in other markets? The yen is top of hierarchy," said Stefan Angrick, a senior economist at Moody's Analytics in Japan. "Japan's rally ultimately had a lot to do with the yen and what happened over the past few days has been a good reminder of that."

The weak yen played a crucial role over the past few years in supporting the shares of major Japanese companies, especially exporters that saw the value of their earnings overseas boosted. Many of Japan's signature global brands, including Toyota Motor Corp., reported record profits. That drew money from investors and drove Japanese indexes to record highs.

The yen's slide in value over the past few years was primarily caused by a large gap between interest rates in Japan and the United States. While U.S. rates surged, Japanese rates remained below or near zero, prompting investors to seek higher returns outside of Japan.

That dynamic began to reverse July 31, when the Bank of Japan unexpectedly raised its key interest rate for only the second time in nearly two decades. This move, coupled with indications



Japanese shares began to recover Tuesday, as the Nikkei 225 index rebounded by 10.2 per cent, and some traders speculated that the market might have reached a settling point. WILLY KURNIAWAN/REUTERS

from the U.S. Federal Reserve of imminent rate cuts, led to a swift appreciation of the yen.

As of Friday morning, the yen, which had been trading around 161 to the U.S. dollar just weeks earlier, had crossed below 150.

The breach of the 150-yen-to-U.S.-dollar threshold, which traders viewed as a tipping point, exacerbated panic among investors who feared that companies would have to lower their profit forecasts.

The Topix index, which represents a broad spectrum of the Ja-

panese economy, dropped 6.1 per cent Friday – capping off its worst two-day performance since the 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

After the sell-off, the start of trading in Tokyo on Monday was seen as a test of whether confidence in Japanese companies would persist even without the yen's support. Historically, Japanese investors have seized opportunities during foreign-led market meltdowns, and prices were low.

The problem was that this

time, the buyers hung back. Japan's trading day was marked by a frenzy of selling: The Nikkei 225 index, another benchmark index, posted its largest one-day point drop ever. Some called it "Black Monday," recalling the global stock market crash in October, 1987.

"After all of these reforms and stability and the Tokyo Stock Exchange pushing for better capital returns, you still saw no bid from the Japanese investor," said Jesper Koll, a director at financial services firm Monex Group. "It got spooky," he said.

On Tuesday, Japanese shares began to recover. The Nikkei 225 index rebounded by 10.2 per cent, and some traders speculated that the market might have reached a settling point after factoring in a stronger yen.

One 43-year-old Japanese investor who asked not to be named, a former operator of a cram school in the Tokyo area, said that despite feeling "scared and wanting to escape," he bought stocks Monday. When prices rebounded he pocketed the equivalent of around US\$2,700 and went off to take his children to a play centre.

The question – which no one, of course, can answer – is whether the weak-yen, high-stock-price bubble has fully deflated.

On Wednesday, Japanese indexes continued to recover, though movements were relatively small. The Nikkei 225 closed up 1.2 per cent, while the Topix gained 2.3 per cent. Japanese indexes had broadly returned to where they were at the start of the year.

Nomura Research Institute, in a note Wednesday, suggested that the weaker yen started pushing stock prices higher at the start of 2023, when the Nikkei was hovering around 26,000. That could mean that stocks might fall by another third from where they are now if all of the yen-related rally reverses. For many companies and their investors, that would be a painful adjustment.

Joy Yang, who leads Asian economic research at Point72, a hedge fund, said she is waiting to make judgments on Japan's economy and stocks until markets have calmed and several key indicators are released. For example, economic output figures due next week will show whether newfound inflation in Japan is helping stir growth, she said.

"For now," Ms. Yang said, "we are waiting for the markets to settle and we'll see how to go forward from there."

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Suncor tracking ahead of its production forecast at midpoint of year

AMANDA STEPHENSON

Oil and gas production at **Suncor Energy Inc.** is tracking ahead of its forecast so far this year, though the company said Wednesday it is refraining from making changes to its full-year guidance.

CEO Rich Kruger said the company is delivering tangible improvements and tracking above its own guidance on several metrics at this point in the year.

But Suncor is sticking to its previously announced full-year pro-

duction forecast of 770,000 to 810,000 barrels a day on average for the year.

Mr. Kruger said production at Fort Hills will likely go down in the second half of 2024 as Suncor focuses on opening up a new north pit at the mine.

"We know we've got a second half to go and we're going to play it out to the final whistle," Mr. Kruger said on a conference call with analysts.

The Calgary-based company beat Wall Street's expectations with its second-quarter earnings

report, delivering total oil sands production of 834,400 barrels a day on average, compared with 814,300 barrels a day in the same quarter of 2023.

The company achieved record bitumen production at both its Fort Hills site (in part due to acquiring 100 per cent ownership of the project last year) and Firebag oil sands sites.

Its total downstream production averaged 770,600 barrels a day in the second quarter, exceeding Wall Street's expectations by 5 per cent.

RBC Capital Markets analyst Greg Parry called the company's second-quarter performance "solid" and an "all-around beat," adding he believes Suncor is "well-positioned for a solid second half" of the year.

Suncor, which until recently had a reputation for under-performance compared with industry peers, has been pursuing a major corporate turnaround plan under the leadership of Kruger, who took the helm in April, 2023.

The former Imperial Oil head, who was lured out of retirement

to take the top job at Suncor, quickly reduced the company's employee head count by 20 per cent, or 1,500 people, in order to eliminate unnecessary or "unaffordable" work.

He has also been leading a push toward automation of the company's oil sands mining truck fleet.

Suncor has 22 fully autonomous mine trucks in its fleet, six more than it had at the time of its last quarterly earnings call.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHEER ON TEAM CANADA



MONTRÉAL | AUG 9-11
La Cour Gare Windsor

Hosted by



CATRIONA LE MAY DOAN



MAXIME DUFOUR-LAPOINTE

Photo Credit: Daniel Daignault

- WATCH THE GAMES
- MEET OLYMPIANS
- MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
- SPORT DEMONSTRATIONS

FREE - ALL AGES

OLYMPIC.CA/FANFEST

FOLLOW @TEAMCANADA FOR MORE



Russia: Calfrac CEO says attempts to divest have been hampered by new laws

■ FROM B1

After the invasion of Ukraine, companies rushed to tell the world what they were doing to pull out of Russia.

"Russia is such a pariah that companies find it difficult to speak plainly," said Mark Dixon, the founder of the Moral Rating Agency, which tracks companies' efforts to extract themselves from the country. Mr. Dixon says it's difficult to nail down exactly how a company has approached its Russian investments simply by looking at their disclosures.

He said he looks for verifiable statements that operations have been closed or sold, as opposed to a company promising it will not make "further investments" in Russia.

CCL Industries said in March, 2022, it would "suspend future financial support to its investment in Russia," where it had five plants, 428 employees and \$70-million in sales. In its 2023 annual report, CCL said its subsidiary Innovia suffered the "loss of the entire Russian market, following the Ukraine conflict, to Chinese producers."

But CCL still owns 50 per cent of CCL-Kontur, which operates four of the five plants it had at the time of the invasion. CCL says in its annual report that CCL-Kontur "posted record sales for 2023." It reports its share of the profits in a segment that also includes earnings in another joint venture and said that segment contributed \$17.9-million to a total of \$530-million in 2023 profits.

In its disclosures, CCL says its equity partner in the joint venture "has management control of the Russian operations." It adds that it has "suspended all future financial support by way of equity injection or additional debt financing."

CCL makes no mention in its disclosures of trying to sell its stake in the joint venture, and company executives did not return e-mails and calls seeking comment.

The company's website features a "Support for Ukraine" tab that details employee efforts to collect clothes and supplies for refugees, as well as housing that CCL provided in Poland, Austria and Germany.

Calfrac is a provider of equipment and crews to oil and gas



At the outset of the war, Calfrac had been selling its services in Western Siberia to what its disclosures call 'Russia's largest oil producer,' government-controlled PJSC Rosneft Oil Co. ALEXANDER MANZYUK/REUTERS

companies. At the outset of the war, it had been selling its services in Western Siberia to what its disclosures call "Russia's largest oil producer," which is government-controlled PJSC Rosneft Oil Co.

Calfrac says it's trying to find a buyer for its Russian operations and consequently lists its Russian results as "discontinued operations" in its financial statements. In the meantime, however, the company is pulling in more revenue and profit from Russia than it did in 2021.

It recorded revenue of \$134-million in 2023, compared with \$122-million in 2021. The company reports just revenues and expenses from the Russian operations, rather than a full accounting. The excess of revenue over expenses was \$21.9-million in 2023, compared with \$13.3-million in 2021.

Calfrac recorded an impairment of \$42.8-million on June 30, 2022, to write down the Russian division's assets to the value Calfrac expected it would eventually recover from a sale. The company also doesn't expect to pull a material amount of its cash profits out of Russia, the company's

chief financial officer, Mike Olinek, said in an e-mailed response to questions.

"Since the first quarter of 2022 Calfrac has been, and remains, committed to selling its Russian subsidiary," he said.

He said the company's attempts to divest have been significantly hampered by Russia's new laws governing exits of foreign investors – a response to Western sanctions. In Calfrac's case, he said, "there is a requirement that the sale of our Russian business be approved by an order signed by President Vladimir Putin."

"Although we are not at liberty to disclose the specific details, Calfrac continues to work with its external advisors to responsibly complete a sale as soon as possible," he said. "I can confirm that Calfrac has invested significant time, energy and resources into its divestment effort and has made significant progress toward a divestiture of the Russian business."

Mr. Olinek said that since June, 2022, the Russian subsidiary, CWS International, has operated independently of Calfrac, directed by its local Russian management. It

receives no financial, management, technical or other business services or support from Calfrac or its affiliates, he said.

Restaurant Brands International Inc., the franchiser of several chains, including Tim Hortons, had 800 Burger Kings in Russia at the start of the invasion. The company had a deal with what's called a subfranchisee, which in turn awarded stores to individual franchisees, spokesperson Mary Lowe said.

Ms. Lowe said that meant the sole financial relationship was Restaurant Brands collecting sales royalties from the sub franchiser. It did not sell food or supplies – a means of making money from Canadian franchisees – to the Russian restaurants, she said, and has now stopped collecting royalties.

But the restaurants still operate under the Burger King name. Ms. Lowe said Restaurant Brands determined it could not terminate its franchise agreements owing to the misdeeds of a government, rather than the franchisees themselves.

Many other Canadian companies were able to quickly exit Russia and close or sell their oper-

ations – sometimes at great cost.

Kinross Gold Inc. may be the most striking example of paying the high price of leaving – and the complications of dealing with the Putin regime. On April 5, 2022, about six weeks after the invasion, Kinross said it had agreed to sell its Russian assets for US\$680-million in cash to the Highland Gold Mining group of companies, an outfit based in the island nation of Jersey whose business model is building a portfolio of Russian gold mines.

After a Russian government review, however, Kinross was forced to cut the sale price to US\$340-million. In connection with the sale, Kinross recognized an impairment charge of US\$671-million.

PHX Energy, like Calfrac a provider of drilling and other energy-services equipment, divested Russian subsidiary Phoenix TSR LLC on June 30, 2022, recording a \$14.1-million loss to do it.

Global real estate company Colliers International Group discontinued its operations in Russia in March, 2022, by selling its controlling interests to local management for "de minimus" proceeds, the company said in financial disclosures, recognizing a loss of \$26.1-million.

Other operations took longer to unwind. Auto parts maker Magna International Inc. took until 2023 to sell all its investments in Russia, recording a loss of US\$16-million. In 2022, the company recorded a US\$376-million impairment charge, writing down the value of the business "as a result of the expected lack of future cashflows and the uncertainties connected with the Russian economy."

Alimentation Couche-Tard's Circle K convenience-store chain announced on March 7, 2022, that it would suspend operations at its 38 stores in Russia. Spokesperson Amine Ndamama said the company "worked to find the right way to exit in a safe and responsible manner," including working with Russian authorities.

Circle K managed to terminate the agreement for the use of its brand, and the name was removed from the stores, Mr. Ndamama said. That August, he said, the company sold all its shares in the Russian Circle K entities with the approval of Russian authorities.

Shopify: Company trimmed operating expenses by nearly 8% from first quarter

■ FROM B1

Shopify delivered strong growth in multiple areas as it continued to build out a platform it refers to as a comprehensive unified operating system for merchants to handle all aspects of their commercial operations – online, in store, across borders and in multiple countries.

The share of Shopify's GMV that went through its fee-generating payments processing service reached 61 per cent, up from 58 per cent a year earlier. Its push into providing point-of-sale systems for "offline" physical retailers had a 27-per-cent year-over-year jump in volumes processed.

Shopify's merchant count increased by an undisclosed amount as it added brands including Italian eyewear conglomerate Luxottica Group S.p.A. and British football club Newcastle United, driving 32-per-cent GMV expansion in Europe. They joined a platform that powers celebrity and online-native brands including Kylie Cosmetics, Lionel Messi's Más+ hydration drink business and Gymshark, and e-commerce sales for established brands such as Mattel, Heinz and Staples.

"We are building for the long term and our business model is working," Shopify president Harley Finkelstein said on a conference call with analysts. He said the results show "that we can achieve a seriously meaningful combination of both growth and

Shopify's big gains – and losses

These are the best and worst five single-day performances for Shopify's NYSE-listed shares. Wednesday's gain of 17.8 per cent fell just short of cracking the top five.

TOP FIVE DAILY GAINS

Date	Close (\$US)	Day change %
2015-05-21	\$2.57	51.1%
2023-05-04	\$57.30	23.8%
2015-09-17	\$3.56	23.0%
2023-11-02	\$59.70	22.4%
2022-03-18	\$78.00	18.7%

TOP FIVE DAILY LOSSES

Date	Close (\$US)	Day change %
2024-05-08	\$62.73	-18.6%
2020-03-16	\$32.23	-17.6%
2022-02-16	\$74.68	-16.0%
2023-02-16	\$44.91	-15.9%
2022-05-05	\$41.31	-14.9%

Historical prices adjusted to reflect 10-for-1 stock split in June 2022
THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: YAHOO! FINANCE

profitability" while continuing to invest in the business.

Shopify "continues to perform at a high level when compared to global peers, and we think a positive reaction is warranted," ATB Capital Markets analyst Martin Toner said in a note. "We believe the Q2 results and guidance should give investors confidence" in a "world-class large cap growth story" he said was undervalued.

Shopify's stock has experienced a rocky 2024. Before Wednesday the share price was down 30 per cent on the year and

69 per cent from its all-time high in November, 2021, at the peak of a pandemic-fueled bubble for tech companies.

Shopify's 19-per-cent stock drop in May was its largest single-day loss after it warned operating expenses would climb from the first quarter by an amount in the low- to mid-single-digit percentage range. Those jitters reflected a number of factors, including a prolonged downturn for technology stocks and macroeconomic concerns.

Investors also want to see high-

growth companies strive for better bottom-line performance without sacrificing too much top-line revenue growth. That has proven to be a tricky balance for many companies to pull off, and with Shopify trading at a relatively rich valuation, anything short of expectations has been swiftly punished by investors.

But in Wednesday's report, Shopify pleasantly surprised investors and analysts by reporting operating expenses did not rise, but actually fell by nearly 8 per cent from the first quarter, to US\$804-million, while operating expenses as a share of revenue came in at 39.3 per cent, down from 43.5 per cent. The company achieved that in part by shaving costs off a large conference it held and by delaying the start of a large marketing campaign to the third quarter.

It held its ranks to about 8,300 employees, unchanged for several quarters. Chief financial officer Jeff Hoffmeister forecast the company's operating expense ratio would creep up to 41 per cent to 42 per cent in the third quarter, but still down from a year earlier.

The CFO told analysts that despite macroeconomic concerns about softening consumer spending, the company wasn't seeing that in the data from its merchants. "I think we're simply taking share" away from competitors, he said.

Shopify, Canada's largest technology company by market cap-

italization, forecast third-quarter revenues will rise by an amount in the low- to mid-20-per-cent range, compared with an analyst consensus forecast of about 20 per cent. It predicted gross margins would climb by 50 basis points over second-quarter levels, after warning they would dip by 50 basis points last quarter. The gross margin rate actually dipped by just 30 basis points in the second quarter, to 51.1 per cent of revenues.

"Both the results and outlook point to growing operating leverage and in a market that's asking for efficient capital allocation," National Bank Financial analyst Richard Tse said in an e-mail.

Shopify posted a net profit of US\$171-million, or 13 cents per share, which was weighted down in part by the fluctuating value of its equity holdings in three other companies that sell services to its merchants, Global-E Online Ltd., Affirm Holdings, Inc. and Klaviyo, Inc.

All three of their share prices were lower at the end of the second quarter than three months prior. However, analysts pay closer attention to the company's adjusted net income, which factors out stock-based compensation, the equity loss on investments and other elements. That came in at US\$345-million, or 26 US cents per share, well ahead of the 21 cents analysts had forecast.

With a report from David Milstead

Commodities: Investors eye U.S. economic trends and how they could affect prices

■ FROM B1

The TSX's materials sub-index, which is comprised of miners, is up about 15 per cent this year.

But lately, miners that produce other resources have been selling off, including First Quantum Minerals Ltd., HudBay Minerals Inc. and Lundin Mining Corp., all of which are down between 20 and 30 per cent over the last month. And more pain could come.

In the past, few weeks investors have been weighing the impact of the so-called Sahm rule. It's named after former Federal Re-

serve economist Claudia Sahm, who noted that the U.S. economy has historically never avoided a recession when the three-month moving average of the country's jobless rate rises by more than five-tenths above its last 12-month low. That threshold was recently met.

Economists at National Bank of Canada calculated that, the last seven times the Sahm rule was triggered – excluding the COVID-19, because it was such an anomaly – the median price of oil fell by 13.6 per cent, and the median price of copper fell 4.3 per

cent. (Gold, though, saw its median price rise 2.9 per cent.)

Falling commodity prices would likely hurt stock valuations, and that would change the calculus for resource-sector mergers, which have recently picked up.

In late July, BHP and Lundin Mining announced a \$4.1-billion joint venture to acquire Canadian-listed Filo Corp. to develop a significant copper project, among other things. But copper is now back to trading slightly under US\$4 per pound.

Despite all the projections

about an undersupply of the metal in future, there's more than enough of it right now, in large part because China is copper's biggest buyer. Recent data from the London Metals Exchange show that inventories of the metal have been rising to their highest levels since 2021.

As for oil, the price of Brent crude is trading around US\$76 per barrel. While that's higher than roughly US\$60 per barrel right before the pandemic, it's arguably quite low, given all of the geopolitical tension in the Middle East.

This week, the U.S. Energy In-

formation Administration updated its price forecasts for the next two years and predicted weaker demand in China because of "slower economic activity as well as updated monthly statistics showing reduced diesel demand, crude oil imports, and crude oil refinery runs" in the country.

Of course, commodity prices are notoriously fickle and can swing either direction quite easily. And in the long run, shortages of metals such as copper are still set to materialize. But narratives matter a lot, and right now, the story is looking rather negative.

WestJet reimbursement guidance challenged

Passenger rights group in B.C. sues airline over information on website about caps, exclusions

ERICA ALINI

A passenger rights group has filed a lawsuit against WestJet Airlines Ltd. in a legal challenge that some consumer advocates say could have broad repercussions, helping to ensure carriers do not unduly limit reimbursement in the event of flight disruptions.

In a statement of claim filed Aug. 6 in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the non-profit Air Passenger Rights group alleges that guidelines published online by WestJet are potentially misleading customers about their ability to get money back for expenses incurred for flight delays and cancellations or when they are denied boarding.

The guidance runs contrary to laws applicable to both domestic and international flights, according to the lawsuit, by imposing a ceiling on reimbursement for meals and hotel accommodations and stating that passengers won't receive repayment for roaming charges, lost wages and missing events they had already paid for.

"It has been on my radar for a long time," Air Passenger Rights president Gabor Lukacs said of WestJet's guidelines. But with flight disruptions soaring in recent years, the number of passengers who have seen reimbursements unduly capped or denied has climbed, he said.



John Lawford of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre says while WestJet stands out for detailing them on its website, other airlines likely seek to impose ceilings on customer reimbursements. CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/CP

On its website, WestJet currently states it will reimburse up to \$150 a night – or \$200 a night for international destinations – for hotel stays in the event of flight disruptions within the airline's control when it is unable to secure accommodation or passengers choose to book their own room.

For meal expenses, the carrier says it pays up to \$45 a day for each person, during disruptions within its control, if vouchers are not available. The airline will also provide or pay for transportation to and from the hotel but does not reimburse out-of-pocket costs for roaming charges, lost wages and missed events.

The lawsuit alleges the ceiling on reimbursements for hotel stays and meals is contrary to both the Canada Transportation Act, Canada's Air Passenger Protection Regulations and the Montreal Convention, a multilateral treaty that governs international travel.

Excluding roaming fees from reimbursement also goes against both domestic and international rules, while refusing compensation for missed events and lost wages is inconsistent with the Montreal Convention, the lawsuit says.

Under Canada's Air Passenger Protection Regulations, which apply to both domestic flights and

alongside the Montreal Convention, to international air travel, airlines must provide reasonable amounts of food and drink, access to a telephone or WiFi and overnight accommodation when warranted for delays or cancellations deemed to be within their control.

"It is the airline which is supposed to be running and finding a bargain," Mr. Lukacs said, speaking of hotel bookings. "If they cannot, that's prima facie evidence, there's nothing cheap available, so a passenger cannot be expected to get something cheap."

Mr. Lukacs also described WestJet's \$45 limit on meal expenses as woefully low given the cost of

airport food and drink.

Air Passenger Rights is asking that the court instruct WestJet to remove the guidelines from its website, stop applying the guidance to passengers' claims for reimbursement and pay back customers whose compensation was unfairly limited, among other requests.

Julia Brunet, a spokesperson for WestJet, declined to offer a statement, saying the airline does not comment on matters before the courts.

John Lawford, executive director and general counsel of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, a consumer rights group, said WestJet stands out for having a publicly available document outlining compensation caps and exclusions. However, it's likely that other airlines also seek to impose ceilings on what and how much they'll reimburse through more informal customer interactions, he added.

The lawsuit, if successful, may deter other airlines from applying similar limits, Mr. Lawford said.

"It's a nice shot across the bow to Air Canada and the other carriers to see if they're doing this, in a soft-power kind of way," he said.

The Canadian Transportation Agency, the federal transportation regulator, was unable to reply before deadline to a request for comment on what passengers are entitled to when claiming reimbursement for flight disruptions.

"It's really an embarrassment that we, as an NGO, have to bring this type of action when it would be the government's job to enforce the laws and they're just failing to enforce the rights of passengers," Mr. Lukacs said.

Naming a guardian in your will is key to a child's well-being

TIM CESTNICK

OPINION

TAX MATTERS

FCPA, FCA, CPA (IL), CFP, TEP, author, co-founder and CEO of Our Family Office Inc. He can be reached at tim@ourfamilyoffice.ca

Carolyn and I were revising our wills when our kids were younger. I've shared before how difficult it was for us to name a guardian in our wills. At that time, Carolyn insisted that we name someone who is loving and of high moral character. I pondered that comment: "Carolyn, if we knew someone like that, why wouldn't we just give the kids away today?" She vetoed that idea faster than a sprinter out of the blocks. So, we kept the kids. Today, they're grown up and the question of who should be their guardian is no longer an issue.

As I think back, we delayed having our wills revised because we didn't know who to name as a guardian. That wasn't the right decision. Today, I want to share four key issues to consider around guardianship. I want to thank Karen La Caprara, a lawyer at the firm Fasken LLP, for her thoughts on some of these issues.

■ **Ensuring stability and continuity.** The key reason to carefully consider who will look after your minor children if you and your spouse are gone is to ensure the ongoing nurturing and guidance of your kids. And naming a guardian goes beyond just caregiving because it can provide a sense of stability and continuity for your children, knowing that you've prepared a plan for their care. When you name a guardian in your will, you can also name alternate guardians. Consider using a letter of wishes, which can be referenced in your will, to provide guidance about your intentions around who should act as guardian and in what circumstances. For example, you might

appoint a child's grandparents but only if they're still in good health and feel capable of taking on the role at the time. Or perhaps you want your sibling to be guardian, but only if they agree to move back to your province from abroad. A letter of wishes can also be used to address other concerns you might have. You might, for example, provide guidance around your wishes for education, sports or other activities you hope for your kids, or request that your children spend time with specific others who may share your religious or cultural beliefs. You should speak to your family and friends in advance about these things.

■ **Minimizing legal disputes.** If you fail to name a guardian, the court will be left to appoint someone, which can lead to family and legal disputes. The naming of a guardian for your children is a matter of provincial law, so make sure you speak to a lawyer in your province. In most provinces, naming a guardian in your will is not a permanent ap-

pointment. The individual you've named will have to apply to the court, within a certain time (for example, it's 90 days in Ontario), for a permanent appointment. When considering an application, the court will consider who you've appointed in your will, but if anyone objects to that appointment, the court will consider this. The court's job is to consider what's best for your children at that time. As an aside, you and your spouse should name the same guardians in your wills for the appointment to be effective in the event you die at the same time or in circumstances that make it uncertain who survived the other.

■ **Providing continuity of values.** Perhaps the most important consideration when naming a guardian is to choose someone who shares your values, culture and, where applicable, your faith. You can always use your letter of wishes to provide more details around how you'd like your children to be raised, but keep in mind that these are wishes only

and not legally binding directions – so you'll want to name a guardian who is like-minded if you can.

■ **Securing financial support.** Raising and caring for your children can be expensive. You should consider using life insurance to fund a trust upon your death. A trustee named in your will can manage this trust and can compensate or reimburse the guardian for expenses related to caring for your children. You might consider giving the guardian a regular monthly allowance to cover costs related to your children. You could simply name the guardian as the trustee, but if you have concerns about the guardian's ability to manage money, or to remain objective when using the trust funds, you may want to name a different individual as a check and balance. Again, you can provide more guidance in your letter of wishes as to how the funds you leave behind should be used – although the terms of your will should also provide the trustee with specific powers to manage the funds.

Increasing bond exposure is a smart move for investors right now

TOM CZITRON

OPINION

Former portfolio manager with more than four decades of investment experience, particularly in fixed income and asset mix strategy, and a former lead manager of Royal Bank of Canada's main bond fund

For investors, this has turned into a long and hot summer, both figuratively and literally.

Within the past few weeks, the world was shaken by an assassination attempt on a former (and perhaps future) president of the United States. The sitting President withdrew from the election, and Vice-President Kamala Harris was swiftly installed as the Democratic candidate. The U.K. and France held historic elections resulting in leftist wins and, for now, chaotic situations.

The Israel-Hamas war is still threatening to escalate. This could result in a larger regional war and the closing of all shipping through the Suez Canal and Persian Gulf, which would negatively affect a world economy that is already showing weakness. Meanwhile, the war in Ukraine rages on.

As political risks and uncer-

tainties escalate, investors justifiably become nervous and seek to protect their capital. As we saw over the past week, this has profound effects on capital markets and asset prices. It also provides opportunities in the fixed income side of portfolios.

The past week's chaotic markets have been blamed in part on a weak U.S. jobs report that increased the chances of a recession in the minds of market players. Curiously, government bonds were relatively stable. Bond prices rallied as yields fell (they move inversely) but there was no "flight to quality" trade into longer-dated Treasuries and the U.S. dollar. A lot of the action was in shorter-term issues.

Corporate bond spreads widened initially, signifying investors wanted higher yields to account for the higher risks of the corporate sector versus the government. But they did not increase explosively as in other times of market volatility and economic crisis. Given the seeming return to normalcy, bond players appear to have it right so far.

So, is an increase in bond exposure a good idea for investors right now? My answer is an unequivocal affirmative for two main reasons.

One is that bonds are good value right now and will yield good

returns. The three-month U.S. Treasury bill rate is between 5.25 per cent and 5.50 per cent. Year-over-year U.S. inflation was 3 per cent in June, and I believe we are heading for the 1.5-per-cent and 2.0-per-cent range over the coming year.

I base this on a weakening economy. I am a dinosaur and still believe in many of the tenets of Milton Friedman's brand of monetarist economics, including the quantity theory of money. Expanded money supply as defined as M2 accurately forecast the recent explosion of inflation, while the neo-Keynesian establishment assured us warnings of increasing inflation were histrionic. M2 growth later declined, signalling inflation would be less. That's so far proven correct, and indicates further declines in inflation ahead.

The spread between short-term T-bills and current inflation is over two percentage points and more than three percentage points over inflation expectations for the coming year.

This isn't the historical norm. T-bills, which have a maturity of one-year or less, should provide inflation protection and not much else. Even a 1-per-cent yield above inflation is generous in the long run.

That doesn't mean investors

should park their cash in short-term T-bills. Central banks across the globe are now in a period of easing that will soon include the U.S. Federal Reserve. This will push T-bill yields lower, probably more quickly than long-term bond yields. But prices for long-term bonds are more sensitive to interest-rate changes and on a total return basis will perform better.

The second major reason to gain more bond exposure? As insurance in the event of a bear market in equities or a geopolitical flare-up. An equities correction appears inevitable given the historically expensive stock market and the economic and political risk in today's world. Panicking investors almost always flee to U.S. dollar assets and Treasuries.

For example, during the bear market that coincided with the great financial crisis of 2008, the S&P 500 eventually fell by just under 50 per cent, peak to trough. During that same period from mid 2007 to early 2009, long U.S. Treasuries returned 30 per cent with interest. As a result, a 70-30 stock bond portfolio would have lost 25 per cent over that period while a 50-50 portfolio would have lost only 10 per cent. Older investors should think seriously about this.

My latest recommendation: overweight long-term government bonds, and consider holding U.S. debt. Right now, U.S. government yields offer more than those in Canada, but this spread will come down as the Fed cuts rates. That means total returns will be better in U.S. debt than Canadian debt, and I think the U.S. dollar will remain strong against the loonie.

Although there are legitimate concerns about the fiscal positions of the Canadian provinces, the extra yield one gets from provincial versus federal debt justifies having exposure.

Meanwhile, corporate bonds, especially high yield, should be minimized as any flight to quality crisis usually results in large drops in prices even if interest rates are declining.

Investors who want exposure to long-term bonds and the U.S. dollar can purchase the iShares 20+ Year Treasury Bond ETF (XTLT-T). It has an expense ratio of only 0.15 per cent.

The Bank of Montreal offers the BMO Long Provincial Bond Index ETF (ZPL-T) with a management expense ratio of 0.28 per cent. If an investor is nervous about provincial fiscal positions there is the BMO Long Federal Bond Index ETF (ZFL-T) with an expense ratio of 0.22 per cent.

Why investors search for a narrative when stock markets crash

Though powerful, it won't change the facts, but it can change how facts are interpreted

BENJAMIN FELIX

OPINION

Portfolio manager and head of research at PWL Capital, co-host of the Rational Reminder podcast along with a YouTube channel, CFP professional and CFA charterholder

What caused the stock market crash, and does it even matter?

Stock prices reflect investors' expectations about future profits and risk. When expectations change, as they often do, prices change, sometimes dramatically.

Volatile stock prices do not mean the market is broken or the world is ending. Sharp price declines are expected from time to time in an efficient stock market, and their inevitability should be built into every investment plan.

Most people understand this, but there's a problem: every market drop feels different. People are searching for a narrative, and the narrative can be scarier than the drop itself.

If we understand how a compelling narrative affects our behaviour, we can make better decisions – and feel less anxious – when the stock market declines.

"Narratives are human constructs that are mixtures of fact and emotion and human interest and other extraneous detail that form an impression on the human mind," economist Robert Shiller explains in his 2017 paper, Narrative Economics.

A narrative does not change the facts of a situation, but it can easily change how people re-

spond to it. The sober reality, though, is that things have tended to work out just fine for a properly diversified investor.

The phenomena of markets bouncing back after crashes was studied in a 2017 paper titled Negative Bubbles: What Happens After a Crash.

The financial economists studied crashes from 101 global stock markets between 1692 and 2015, and identified 1,032 events where a market declined by more than 50 per cent over a 12-month period.

They found that the probability of a large positive return is higher after a crash. Remember, this large empirical data set is immune to any narratives when we observe it.

If we understand how a compelling narrative affects our behaviour, we can make better decisions – and feel less anxious – when the stock market declines.

Each of those crashes were probably accompanied by reasons to expect worse things to come, but we can step back and observe the outcomes, free from the accompanying narratives.

Fundamentally, when stock prices drop, it means expectations for future earnings have decreased, businesses are riskier, or some combination of the two.

To lose all your money in a globally diversified portfolio of stock index funds, we would need to be in a situation where nobody expects any business to earn any profits in the future. This is an extreme case and seems unlikely.

A more realistic bad outcome is having to watch your portfolio decline for a period of time. This

is where narratives and asset allocation become equally important.

Narratives will make us believe that this time is different – and while the narrative might be different, challenging and uncertain times are nothing new.

Just this century we have seen the dot-com crash, the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center, SARS, the 2008 global financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the same period, ending July, 2024, the MSCI All Country World Index delivered an annualized return of 5.36 per cent in Canadian dollar terms.

Narratives are powerful and they can change how facts are interpreted. It's important to step back and look at the broader set of data before responding to an event such as a meaningful decline in stock prices.

Regardless of the narrative, you should be invested in an asset allocation that you can stick with in good times and bad. If a stock market drop has been too painful, it might be a good time to ask yourself if you were taking on too much risk to begin with.

Uncertainty increases risk, driving down asset prices and driving up expected returns. When the market declines, it is not time to get out. This is when equity investors earn the equity risk premium.

On any given day, including after a market drop, the best thing we can do is stick to the plans we made in calmer times.

The economy might deteriorate, but this is why you have an emergency fund. Stocks might continue to drop, but this is why you invest in a risk-appropriate portfolio.

When things are uncertain, it can be challenging to make good long-term decisions.

This is why you made a plan, and now is the most important time to stick to it.

North American stocks lower after weak U.S. Treasury auction

North American stocks ended lower on Wednesday, with the Nasdaq falling 1 per cent as technology shares declined and weak demand in a 10-year Treasury auction stoked investor jitters in choppy trade.

Canada's main stock index fell to a near six-week low, despite a sharp increase in the shares of Shopify Inc. after its earnings report.

U.S. indexes started the day higher with a surge in tech shares, and both began to lose steam in afternoon trading. With investors still nervous after a recent steep sell-off in global stocks, equities pared gains further after the Treasury auction.

The S&P 500 Technology Index ended down 1.4 per cent and was the biggest drag on the benchmark index.

"There's just a lot to worry about over the next eight weeks or so, so I'm expecting more volatility. I wouldn't be surprised if after a few days of rally you have another small sell-off," said Peter Tuz, president of Chase Investment Counsel in Charlottesville, Va.

The yield on benchmark U.S. 10-year notes rose 7 basis points to 3.958 per cent, from 3.888 per cent late on Tuesday.

Investors have been worried about a possible U.S. recession and weaker forecasts from some big U.S. companies, among other factors.

Stocks got early support Wednesday after comments from Bank of Japan (BOJ) deputy governor Shinichi Uchida that the central bank would not raise rates when financial markets are unstable.

The BOJ's surprise rate hike on July 31 to a level unseen in 15 years had sparked a global stocks rout as investors unwound their sharp yen carry trade positions after a surge in the low-yielding currency, widely used for acquiring high-yielding assets.

The Nikkei on Wednesday rose 1 per cent, adding to Tuesday's 10-per-cent rebound from Monday's 12.4-per-cent sell-off.

The S&P 500 lost 0.77 per cent. The S&P/TSX Composite Index ended down 98.41 points, or 0.5 per cent, at 21,880.95.

It was the fourth straight day of declines for the index, the longest daily losing streak since April, after an earlier attempt to rally petered out.

The materials group lost 3.1 per cent as gold and copper prices fell. The consumer staples sector was down 1.5 per cent and heavily weighted financials ended 1.1 per cent lower.

Technology was a bright spot in Toronto, adding 3.3 per cent, as the shares of Shopify Inc. surged 17.9 per cent after the e-commerce company beat analysts' estimates for second-quarter revenue.

Energy shares in Toronto also advanced, adding 1.3 per cent, as the price of oil settled 2.8 per cent higher at US\$75.23 a barrel after data showed a bigger-than-expected draw in U.S. crude stockpiles.

Suncor Energy Inc. was up 4.4 per cent after the oil producer beat quarterly earnings estimates.

In the U.S., shares of Walt Disney Co. fell 4.5 per cent as it predicted a "moderation in demand" at its theme park business in the coming quarters.

REUTERS, GLOBE STAFF

Market swing giving you jitters? Conservative ETFs to dial down the volatility

IAN TAM

Bond-heavy balanced funds

NUMBER CRUNCHER

CFA, director of investment research for Morningstar Canada

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Canadian-listed balanced ETFs that tilt toward bonds.

THE SCREEN

We started this week with an unusually large pullback in the U.S. stock market, followed by strong buying on Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

Though news headlines attempted to pinpoint contributing factors to the pullback (unwinding of carry trading, fear of a U.S. recession, overvaluation in tech, to name a few), it is nearly impossible to know exactly why market sentiment changes so quickly.

Regardless, jarring corrections such as the one we saw Monday are a great gut check for investors, telling them to revisit whether they are taking on the appropriate amount of risk to reach their financial goals.

A boomer nearing the time they need their cash out is likely well served by being largely invested in less risky assets (cash, money market funds, investment-grade bonds), while a Gen Z investor who has a lifetime of earnings ahead of them likely has

the capacity to take on a larger allocation to riskier assets (stocks).

Investors must also consider their attitudes toward risk, which should also help define what a reasonable asset mix might look like.

Today's screen looks for ETFs within the global fixed income balanced category, which includes investment funds that hold between 60 per cent and 95 per cent in bonds, the most conservative of balanced fund cate-

gories. More specifically I screened for those that have either a four- or five-star rating or have received a Morningstar Medalist Rating of gold, silver or bronze.

Readers are reminded that the star rating is a lookback of after-fee risk-adjusted returns against category peers, while the medalist rating is Morningstar's forward-looking view of a fund's ability to outperform peers on an after-fee basis, rooted in our analysis of people (quality of the

management team), parent (stewardship of the fund company) and process (robustness of investment process).

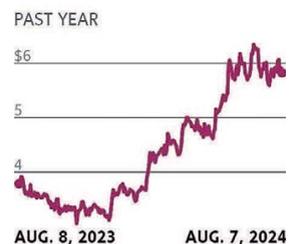
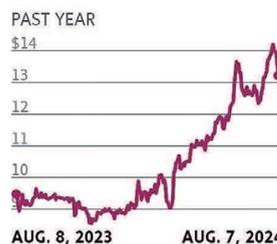
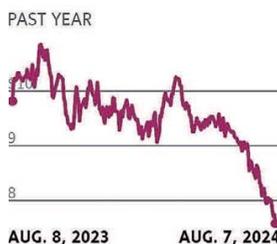
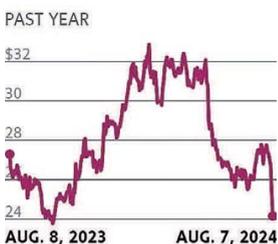
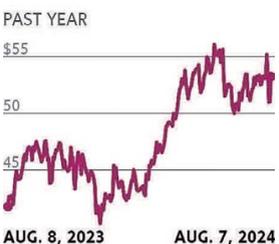
WHAT WE FOUND

The ETFs that qualified in the screen are listed in the table accompanying this article, alongside MERs, trailing performance and inception dates. I note importantly that each of these ETFs comes at quite reasonable costs compared with mutual funds in the same category.

But ETF fees don't include the services of a licensed adviser (investment advice, tax or estate planning etc.), a major contributing factor to their lower annual costs.

This article does not constitute financial advice. It is always recommended to conduct one's own independent research before buying or selling any of the funds or ETFs mentioned in this article.

EYE ON EQUITIES DAVID LEEDER



After a "big time" second-quarter beat, BMO Nesbitt Burns analyst Randy Ollenberger raised his recommendation for shares of **Suncor Energy Inc.** to "outperform" from "market perform," seeing its execution continuing to "impress." "We see further upside to the shares if the company can maintain recent performance and make progress towards its net debt floor," he said. **Target:** His target for Suncor shares remains \$62. Consensus on the Street is \$60.36.

After Tuesday's release of "mixed" second-quarter financial results and a reduction to its full-year financial guidance, Stifel analyst Martin Landry expects shares of **Pet Valu Holdings Inc.** to remain range bound until next year "when the narrative may become more positive." "We see limited multiple expansion potential from current levels," he added. **Target:** Reiterating a "hold" rating, Mr. Landry dropped his target to \$27.50 from \$32. Consensus is \$36.13.

Ahead of the Aug. 13 release of its second-quarter results, Stifel analyst Daryl Young sees few near-term catalysts for **Superior Plus Corp.** "We are squarely in the summer doldrums for propane heating and given the overhang related to slowing O&G [oil and gas] markets; regardless, we think the 9-per-cent dividend yield is attractive and sustainable," he said. **Target:** Reaffirming a "buy" rating, he trimmed his target to \$12.50 from \$13. Consensus is \$12.

Medical Facilities Corp. continues to "comfortably" fund its dividend with distributable cash as its performance consistency persisted with its second-quarter results, according to Leede Financial analyst Douglas Loe. "As with most preceding quarters, EBITDA and distributable cash generated far exceeded actual dividend in the period," he noted. **Target:** Mr. Loe raised his target to \$15.50 from \$15, maintaining a "buy" recommendation. Consensus is \$14.

In response to "strong" second-quarter results, Desjardins Securities analyst Frederic Tremblay remains "constructive" on **5N Plus Inc.**'s "status as a supplier of choice for high-margin specialty materials in the western world" and continues to see potential upside to its 2025 guidance. **Target:** With his "buy" recommendation, Mr. Tremblay raised his target to \$7.25 from \$6.75. Consensus is \$7.19.

S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX
PAST 12 MONTHS



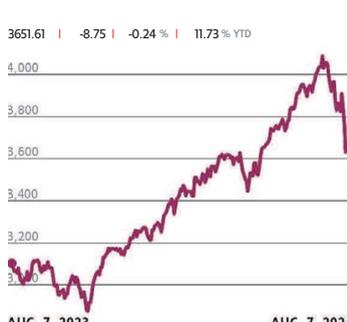
S&P 500
PAST 12 MONTHS



DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE
PAST 12 MONTHS



S&P GLOBAL 100 INDEX
PAST 12 MONTHS



TSX INDEXES AND SUB INDEXES

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TSX COMPOSITE IND	21880.95	-98.41	-0.45	260264	4.40
TSX 60 INDEX	1312.88	-2.41	-0.18	153465	3.80
TSX COMPLETION I	1312.10	-20.62	-1.55	106799	7.01
TSX SMALLCAP INDE	732.95	-11.56	-1.55	81635	4.40
TSX VENTURE COMPO	533.73	-8.94	-1.65	23427	-3.47
TSX CONSUMER DISC	277.61	-3.46	-1.23	6075	1.59
TSX CONSUMER STAP	985.69	-14.88	-1.49	3447	13.87
TSX ENERGY CAPPED	271.84	3.37	1.26	67247	12.30
TSX FINANCIALS CA	393.55	-4.54	-1.14	51857	2.54
TSX HEALTH CARE C	23.42	-0.34	-1.43	2496	-1.26
TSX INDUSTRIALS C	437.72	-3.77	-0.85	11022	3.60
TSX INFORMATION T	211.69	6.72	3.28	20034	-0.50
TSX MATERIALS CAP	350.90	-11.35	-3.13	46717	10.70
TSX REAL ESTATE C	316.09	-4.70	-1.47	5583	2.14
TSX GLOBAL GOLD I	331.30	-10.66	-3.12	48105	16.71
TSX GLOBAL MINING	111.59	-3.16	-2.75	154273	-1.22
TSX INCOME TRSTA	204.43	-1.31	-0.64	9264	-1.51
TSX PREFERRED SH	604.89	0.68	0.11	2738	11.93
TSX COMMUNICATION	163.06	0.23	0.14	9529	-5.51
TSX UTILITIES CAP	291.95	-1.53	-0.52	18287	3.36

TSX VOLUME
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
TOU TOURMALINE OI	58.04	1.36	2.40	15605	-2.60
SU SUNCOR ENERGY	53.20	2.23	4.38	12472	25.32
MFC MANULIFE FIN	33.19	-0.80	-2.35	11505	13.35
ENB ENBRIDGE INC	52.89	0.13	0.25	9953	10.88
RY ROYAL BANK OF	147.74	-0.21	-0.14	8594	10.25
SHOP SHOPIFY INC	87.87	13.31	17.85	8458	-14.82
HNU BETAPRO NAT G	2.62	0.19	7.82	6233	-60.42
XIU ISHARES S&P T	33.31	-0.05	-0.15	5088	4.03
VRRN VEREN INC	9.32	-0.17	-1.79	5003	-22.14
BMO BANK OF MONTR	110.30	-1.22	-1.09	4998	-15.87
BTE BAYTEX ENERGY	4.45	0.01	0.23	4954	1.60
QWO GREAT-WEST LI	39.52	-1.10	-2.71	4748	-9.90
CNO CANADIAN NATU	46.12	0.29	0.63	4672	6.26
CVE CENOVUS ENERG	24.66	-0.16	-0.64	4255	11.68
TD TORONTO-DOMINI	76.82	-0.49	-0.63	3887	-10.28
ABX BARRICK GOLD	231.2	-0.84	-3.51	3882	-3.43
T TELUS CORP	22.58	0.08	0.36	3835	-4.24
BITF BITFARMS LTD	2.60	-0.23	-8.13	3784	-32.47
DML DENISON MINES	2.08	-0.08	-3.70	3510	-10.34
K KINROSS GOLD CO	11.17	-0.65	-5.50	3458	39.28

TSX 52-WEEK HIGHS
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
ARE AECON GROUP I	17.20	0.12	0.70	459	31.60
BN-PF-B BROOKFIEL	20.95	0.33	1.60	7	18.83
BN-PF-C BROOKFIE	19.39	-0.25	-1.27	1	13.06
BRF-PR-F BROOKFIE	18.80	0.16	0.86	15	15.69
CU CANADIAN UTILI	32.80	-0.14	-0.43	896	2.85
EIT-PR-B CANOE EI	25.19	0.00	0.00	2.94	2.94
CPX CAPITAL POWER	42.82	-0.59	-1.36	528	13.16
CU-PR-A CU INC P	18.93	0.05	0.26	1	9.61
DGS-PR-A DIVIDEND	10.15	-0.03	-0.29	17	2.42
DC-PR-B DUNDEE CO	23.25	0.70	3.10	14.81	18.18
ENS-PR-A E SPLIT	10.43	0.01	0.10	29	6.21
ELF E-L FINANCIAL	1268.92	3.02	0.24	21.05	61.05
ENB ENBRIDGE INC	52.89	0.13	0.25	9953	10.88
ENB-PR-G ENBRIDGE	22.50	1.75	8.43	15.38	15.38
FTS-PR-J FORTIS I	20.37	0.27	1.34	8.01	8.01
GLO-PR-A GLOBAL D	10.10	0.03	0.30	3	5.10
GWO-PR-Q GREAT WE	21.20	0.00	0.00	3	9.56
GWO-PR-H GREATWE	20.21	0.08	0.40	3	10.38
GWO-PR-G GREATWE	21.65	0.25	1.17	8	10.52
IAG IA FINANCIAL	92.98	4.18	4.71	318	2.93

TSX 52-WEEK LOWS
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
NA-PR-G NATIONAL	25.71	0.11	0.43	6	3.00
PLC PARK LAWN COR	26.47	0.00	0.00	44	34.09
PWF-PR-K POWER FI	20.31	0.07	0.35	5	9.96
PWF-PR-S POWER FI	19.98	0.28	1.42	10	10.39
PWF-PR-L POWER FI	20.73	0.03	0.14	109	9.39
PWF-PR-A POWER FI	18.72	0.07	0.38	12	12.23
RS-PR-A REAL ESTA	9.97	-0.01	-0.10	5	3.32
SLF-PR-C SUN LIFE	20.28	0.07	0.35	1	10.64
SLF-PR-S SUN LIFE	19.96	-0.03	-0.15	1	9.85
TRP TC ENERGY COR	59.24	0.03	0.05	2664	14.45
TD-PF-J TD BANK P	24.85	0.06	0.24	5	9.66
VHI VITALHUB CORP	8.21	0.13	1.61	140	101.23

TSX GAINERS
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
SHOP SHOPIFY INC	87.87	13.31	17.85	8458	-14.82
CARB GY CARBON CR	7.20	0.70	10.77	-	-13.88
TC TUCOWS INC	33.14	2.68	8.80	2	-7.51
ENB-PR-G ENBRIDGE	22.50	1.75	8.43	15.38	15.38
HNU BETAPRO NAT G	2.62	0.19	7.82	6233	-60.42
HGD BETAPRO CDN G	3.37	0.24	7.67	629	-35.07
PBL POLLARD BANKN	19.61	1.26	6.87	53	-38.78
ACB AURORA CANNAB	8.59	0.48	5.92	1762	32.15
HOU BETAPRO CRUDE	13.22	0.73	5.84	1221	15.76
PFAE PICTON MAHON	18.00	0.99	5.82	10	10.77
GRA NANOXPLORE IN	2.35	0.12	5.38	50	-3.29
RBY RUBELLITE ENE	2.40	0.12	5.26	139	19.40
CDR CONDOR ENERGI	1.64	0.08	5.13	6	19.71
AIM AIM IA INC	2.70	0.13	5.06	103	-13.74
KITS KITS EYECARE	9.80	0.47	5.04	24	57.05
WGX WESTGOLD RESO	2.52	0.12	5.00	235	-
TNMM TITANIUM TRA	2.15	0.10	4.88	2	-7.33
IAG IA FINANCIAL	92.98	4.18	4.71	318	2.93
MND MANDALAY RESO	2.49	0.11	4.62	45	36.07
ESP BRIMPTON ENER	3.90	0.17	4.56	1	16.77

TSX LOSERS
TOP 20 FOR STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
OETH-UN THE ETHER	50.90	-6.10	-10.70	9	5.91
CARS-B EVOLVE AUT	20.76	-2.48	-10.67	-	-23.39
RYB RBC US BANKS	20.49	-2.21	-9.74	11	14.48
HUT HUT 8 CORP	15.33	-1.62	-9.56	814	-13.29
ETHY PURPOSE ETHE	2.94	-0.28	-9.70	74	-13.02
HND BETAPRO NAT G	96.50	-8.76	-8.32	173	15.13
GATO GATOS WOOD GR	1.67	-0.15	-8.24	34	-79.58
BITF BITFARMS LTD	2.60	-0.23	-8.13	3784	-32.47
PTM PLATINUM GROU	1.59	-0.14	-8.09	28	6.00
ETHY-U PURPOSE ET	2.91	-0.24	-7.62	1	-13.13
HOU BETAPRO CDN G	18.07	-1.45	-7.43	217	28.98
OGC OCEANAGOLD CO	3.00	-0.23	-7.12	2940	18.11
GATO GATOS SILVER	13.88	-1.06	-7.10	8	61.21
JAG JAGUAR MINING	3.15	-0.23	-6.80	43	78.98
NOV NOVAGOLD RES I	5.67	-0.41	-6.74	670	14.55
ETHY-B PURPOSE ET	3.75	-0.27	-6.72	12	-8.54
IAU I-80 GOLD COR	1.12	-0.08	-6.67	1041	-51.93
CTC CANADIAN TIRE	242.00	-14.38	-6.65	-	-27.86
DIR-UN DREAM INDU	20.90	-1.76	-6.60	371	18.85
ZUGE BMO US EQUIT	17.16	-1.20	-6.54	-	7.12

TSX 52-WEEK LOWS
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
ATS ATS CORP	37.50	-0.75	-1.96	329	-34.34
BLDP BALLARD POWE	2.64	-0.04	-1.49	625	-46.23
BB BLACKBERRY LTD	2.90	-0.09	-3.01	1601	-38.30
BYD BOYD GROUP SE	213.85	-5.13	-2.34	83	-23.21
CTC CANADIAN TIRE	202.00	-14.38	-6.65	-	-27.86
COV COVEO SOLLITIO	5.85	-0.15	-2.50	263	-39.16
EFV ENERGY FUELS	6.16	-0.21	-3.30	482	-35.06
GLO GLOBAL ATOMIC	1.13	-0.07	-5.83	460	-59.35
IAU I-80 GOLD COR	1.12	-0.08	-6.67	1041	-51.93
IE IVANHOE ELECTR	9.48	-0.44	-4.44	14	-29.31
JOY JOURNEY ENER	2.56	-0.01	-0.39	151	-33.68
LAAC LITHIUM AMER	3.14	-0.17	-5.14	197	-62.40
LAC LITHIUM AMERI	3.09	-0.08	-2.52	507	-63.65
MRE MARTINREA INT	10.47	-0.04	-0.38	267	-26.99
NOA NORTH AMERICA	24.04	-0.71	-2.87	168	-13.06
NTR NUTRIEN LTD	64.73	-0.25	-0.38	1359	-13.29
PXT PAREX RESOURC	16.72	-0.23	-1.36	1079	-32.99
PKI PARKLAND FUEL	34.77	-0.97	-2.71	690	-18.59
PRB PROBE GOLD IN	1.10	-0.04	-3.51	164	-17.91
ROOT ROOTS CORP	2.05	0.04	1.99	2	-18.00

TSX 52-WEEK LOWS
STOCKS \$1 OR MORE

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
SLS SOLARIS RESOU	2.91	-0.20	-6.43	535	-29.54
COPI-UN SPROTT PHY	11.21	-0.51	-4.35	3	-18.00
COPI-UN SPROTT PHY	8.10	-0.36	-4.26	5	-19.00
TXT TELY INTERN	4.07	-0.10	-2.40	960	-64.24
TRZ TRANSAT AT IN	1.93	-0.07	-3.50	116	-48.26
TSI TREE ISLAND S	2.59	-0.09	-3.36	7	-24.93
VRRN VEREN INC	9.32	-0.17	-1.79	5003	-22.14
WUX WAJAX CORP	25.11	-0.28	-1.10	38	-17.05

S&P/TSX COMPOSITE INDEX STOCKS
LARGEST STOCKS BY MARKET CAPITALIZATION

	CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG		CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG		CLOSE	NET CHG	% CHG	VOL 000s	YTD %CHG
AAV ADVANTAGE OIL	8.94	-0.06	-0.67	745	4.81	CSH-UN CHARTWELL	13.80	0.14	1.02	394	17.75	KNT K92 MINING IN	6.83	-0.47	-6.44	500	4.92



SPORTS

Canadian basketball teams leave Paris with sense of sadness and hope ■ B12

Distance swimmer is used to all sorts of race hazards, writes Grant Robertson ■ B14

{ PARIS 2024 }



Alysha Newman of Delaware, Ont., soars in the women's pole vault event in Saint-Denis, France on Wednesday. She cleared 4.85 metres. KAI PFAFFENBACH/REUTERS

Newman triumphs over setbacks to win bronze in women's pole vault

The three-time Olympian is the first Canadian woman to win a medal in the event

PAUL WALDIE PARIS

Alysha Newman has always said that she wanted to be the first Canadian woman to win an Olympic medal in pole vault. She made that happen on Wednesday in Paris with the jump of her life, a Canadian record and a bronze medal.

Newman cleared 4.85 metres, to finish third behind Nina Kennedy of Australia, who jumped 4.90 metres for gold, and Katie Moon of the United States, who took silver also at 4.85 metres.

This is Newman's third Olympics

and the first two left largely bad memories. She finished 17th at the 2016 Games and couldn't clear the bar at all in Tokyo, sending her into a downward spiral, both physically and emotionally, that lasted for years.

The poor performance in Japan, and the lingering effects of a concussion she'd suffered just before those Games from a freak accident, left her with crippling anxiety and looking for comfort in a bottle.

She thought about quitting athletics about 20 times, but then she found a neurologist and learned how to control her fears.

She slowly made her way back to

the sport, but the journey wasn't straightforward. Until this week she hadn't made a pole vault final in five years, and she lost three months of this season to an ankle injury. Last fall she switched to a new brand of poles, a risky move in an event in which familiarity and routine can make all the difference.

She went to Paris with new-found confidence, and joy. "Heading into this Games, I felt like I was stronger than ever, mentally tough," said the 30-year-old. And when the flickers of anxiety rose up inside, she thought about what her father once said. "I always remember when I was a little

girl and I was doing gymnastics, my dad said, 'When you're nervous and you have butterflies in your stomach, that means you're ready.'"

She made the final with ease on Monday, and on Wednesday she cleared 4.85 metres on her second attempt, eclipsing her own Canadian record of 4.83. And she came ever so close to topping 4.90.

Throughout the competition, as the bar kept going higher, she didn't worry like she used to about every detail. Instead, she just pulled a new pole from her bag and blasted down the runway.

■ NEWMAN, B14

Golf finally enters Olympic state of mind by not even trying to fit in

CATHAL KELLY

OPINION



SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, FRANCE

There weren't many big stories going into the women's golf portion of the Olympics, which began on Wednesday. That's because it is so difficult for golf to get into an Olympic state of mind.

It is separated by a lot of space, imaginative and geographical. To get to the course, you have to drive an hour outside Paris. The only cues there separating it from any other decent-sized tournament are the pink Olympic hoardings.

You're also asking the competitors to re-wire their philosophy.

"Regular week, you finish 10th and you feel good about yourself," Canada's best hope here, Brooke Henderson, said after her first round. "This week, you finish fourth and you feel terrible."

Hunting around for ways to make golf an Olympic thing, headline writers turned to Charley Hull. Hull is a good golfer and an unrepentant smoker. This has made her an object of international fascination. Reporters here prompted her to complain about the total smoking ban in Olympic venues. She won't be able to get a sneaky in on the course.

In a different interview, urged to say how much the Olympics mean to her, this two-time Olympian for Britain said, "I was never really a big Olympic watcher."

Oh well. Hull shot nine over on Wednesday – a moral victory for abstinence, I guess. Several sports here stand slightly as-

kance from the idea of the Olympics, but none does it so effortlessly as golf. That's because golf's not trying.

This is another tournament for these players, and nowhere close to the biggest one. Plenty of them are middle-aged parents. They're not going to be running around the athletes village doing TikToks and having the time of their lives.

They're working with the same colleagues they see every week all over the world. Even when they put on their Olympic uniforms – which aren't much different from their regular uniform – all their hierarchies remain intact.

Scottie Scheffler won gold in the men's competition, which is what Scottie Scheffler does everywhere else. Asked where it stood on his list of accomplishments, Scheffler said, "It's pretty high up there."

That's athlete speak for 'not very high up there.'

Scheffler came from behind to win, and Henderson's going to have to do the same thing. She had one of those days that must feel like a wind catching hold of your parachute. Just when you think you're about to touch land, you get yanked up in the air again.

She came out atrociously, bogeying four of the first five holes. Olympics over.

She birdied eight and nine. Olympics back on. From then on, bogey, birdie, birdie, double bogey, bogey.

The way the course is built at Le Golf National, you can watch from a low rise as the players circle a natural basin for the last few holes. They finally come at you on 18 like an advancing army.

Everybody here is taking a lay-up onto the green, which is an island. Henderson went for it. Then she sank a 48-foot putt for an eagle.

■ KELLY, B14

Canada tops Spain in women's beach volleyball quarter-final

Humana-Paredes and Wilkerson pair up after falling short as part of separate teams at the Tokyo Games

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

Melissa Humana-Paredes and Brandie Wilkerson came to the Paris Olympics wanting to make history together. They got their first taste of it Wednesday.

At centre court, at the foot of the Eiffel Tower, the Canadian beach volleyball duo defeated Spain in straight sets, both by a score of 21-18, advancing to Thursday's semi-finals.

It is the furthest a Canadian women's beach volleyball squad has advanced at the Olympics, putting Wilkerson and Humana-Paredes in contention for a medal.

It is also the deepest either player has gone at the Summer Games, after both made the quarter-finals three years ago in Tokyo flanked by different partners. Advancing further this time was their mission going into Paris.

"When we got together, we wanted to make history together. And I think this is the first step there. There's still a lot to go but I think this is the first step in what we promised to ourselves," said Humana-Paredes, still brushing the sand off her arms post-match.

But their goal in Paris is bigger than the matches themselves. They believe a medal in women's beach volleyball could be transformational for the sport at home.

"We're holding each other accountable to doing that, and really growing the game, hopefully making our country proud, inspiring young athletes, young women, young girls of colour, to play beach volleyball, to look at beach volleyball and hopefully to



Melissa Humana-Paredes, left, and Brandie Wilkerson celebrate after winning a women's beach volleyball quarter-final match during the Olympic Games on Wednesday in Paris.

SIEGFRIED MODOLA/
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

just be yourselves."

After both were stopped in the round of eight three years ago, Wilkerson and Humana-Paredes are banking on their mix of skills and chemistry being the answer.

Humana-Paredes, 32, made it to the quarter-finals in Tokyo with then-partner Sarah Pavan, but they were defeated by Australia.

Wilkerson, 28, also made it to the quarter-finals three years ago, teaming up with Heather Bansley, but lost to Latvia.

Wilkerson said Wednesday's win was a thank-you to their former partners, and to the Canadian women who paved the way for them.

The match was close early on, with Canada and Spain trading points and exchanging leads, each struggling to single-handed-

ly control the momentum.

"When it's back and forth like that for a while, it's easy to get a little frustrated and be like, 'Why aren't we turning points?' Why aren't we getting into a rhythm here?" Humana-Paredes said. "And so I think for us to really remain patient and really steady together, connected, was really important."

Toward the end of each set, when it mattered most, the Canadians exerted their will, using a mixture of offensive power and finesse, coupled with stifling blocks on defence.

Having never played the duo of Daniela Alvarez Mendoza and Tania Moreno Matveeva, Wilkerson said the Canadians had to adjust according to the tactics the Spaniards were throwing at them. But the Canadians said a

defence-first approach helped get them through the match, along with analyzing video of the Spanish side's previous matches.

"Definitely a lot of communication," Wilkerson said, referring to how they approached the game on-court and off. "We have an amazing team of coaches that have scouted for hours and hours to give us kind of a fast track," Wilkerson said.

"But really, the theme of our team is controlling our side and making sure that we don't get too caught up in overthinking things."

At various times in their volleyball careers the two players have been teammates and rivals, which has helped foster their chemistry in Paris, Humana-Paredes said.

Canada's best showing in Olympic beach volleyball came at the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games, when John Child and Mark Heese won a bronze medal, on a squad coached by Humana-Paredes's father Hernán Humana.

"I don't remember a lot," Humana-Paredes said, noting that she was a child when they claimed that medal. But over the years she has come to appreciate what it takes to win at the Olympic level, which she hopes will lead to success in Paris.

"I remember the relationship that my dad had with his players and with what Mark and John had as a team," Humana-Paredes said.

It was Humana-Paredes's father who got Wilkerson, a high-school rugby player, into volleyball at a young age, cajoling her into attending a tryout, Wilkerson recalled.

"We wouldn't be here if she didn't go," Humana-Paredes said.

The semi-finals will be played on Thursday where the two will face Switzerland's Nina Brunner and Tanja Hueberli. The Canadians will be hoping to make a little more history in the process.

The gold-medal game is Friday.

De Grasse reveals he's injured after another disappointing day

RACHEL BRADY PARIS

It's been a rocky Olympic Games for Canadian star sprinter Andre De Grasse.

He didn't advance to the 100-metre final, he will not defend his Olympic title in the 200 metres, plus he's dealing with an ousted coach, an injury, and his medal chances are dwindling.

The six-time Canadian Olympic medalist finished third in his 200-metre semi-final heat Wednesday night at the Games, failing to advance to the final in his best event.

Earlier this week, De Grasse's coach, Rana Reider, was expelled from the Games. Now Canada's most decorated male Summer Olympian has revealed that he's also hampered by a nagging hamstring injury.

The 29-year-old, in his third Olympics, ran the 200 metres in 20.41 seconds on Wednesday, well off his season's best 19.98 or the personal-best 19.62 he ran for gold in Tokyo. (He won the silver in the event in Rio.) He was 10th among all semi-finalists in Paris on Wednesday, not fast enough to make the eight-man final on Thursday night.

De Grasse said that he injured his hamstring last month, and re-aggravated it in Paris. He figures he didn't recover well between



Kenneth Bednarek of United States, left, Tarsis Gracious Orogot of Uganda and Andre de Grasse of Canada compete during a semi-final race of the men's 200 metres at the Paris Games. ALINA SMUTKO/REUTERS

running in the 100-metre semi-final round on Sunday and the first round of the 200-metre qualifying the next day. He first noticed the pain while warming up on Monday and got an ultrasound, which showed the hamstring was inflamed. He didn't feel his best for Wednesday's 200-metre semi.

"I warmed up and kind of didn't really feel it," De Grasse said. "I just tried to come out here today and see what I could do. But it was going to be really tough to come away with a fast time."

This week, the Canadian Olymp-

pic Committee and Athletics Canada pulled the accreditation of the sprinter's personal coach after "new information" surfaced about Reider.

The coach had previously admitted to a consensual relationship with an athlete he'd coached, and was given a penalty of a one-year probation, which started in May, 2023. He was not barred from coaching during that time.

But Reider is now being sued in Florida by three athletes who used to train under him. The alle-

gations against the coach include sexual assault, sexual harassment and verbal harassment. The allegations have not been tested in court and Reider has not been charged with any crime. Athletics Canada CEO Mathieu Genès would not confirm that the details of the civil suits match the information shared by USA Track and Field on Sunday evening, but said Athletics Canada hadn't previously been aware of the new accusations, and Genès immediately asked the COC to revoke the credentials.

De Grasse said Wednesday that he didn't know about the issue with Reider.

De Grasse had worked with Reider starting in 2018 and then left for a time while the coach had been under scrutiny. De Grasse later returned to working with Reider in the fall of 2023.

"He served his time, everything was good, I went back, my federation and everybody said it was good to go. He was all clear," De Grasse told reporters in Paris on Wednesday.

"They give him the [Paris] accreditation and then all of a sudden I guess there was a new case. I knew nothing about it. It just sprung on me the same time you guys knew. So of course that's a tough one to swallow, to know about that right before you're about to run, so pretty tough."

De Grasse was asked why he worked with Rana.

"I won the Olympics with him. He's been my coach for the past three years, I won a lot of world-championship medals with him, Olympic medals," the sprinter said. "So I kind of went back thinking that, you know, he can get me back to where I need to be."

Until Paris, the native of Markham, Ont., had won a medal in every event he had raced at the Olympics. Earlier in the Games, De Grasse did not make it past the semi-final in the men's 100 metres, after earning bronze medals in that event at the two previous Olympics, in Rio and Tokyo.

De Grasse wasn't sure how to make sense of the coaching situation.

"I don't know what to think of it," De Grasse said. "I kind of have to re-evaluate after the Games."

He has one more event to go in Paris – the men's 4x100-metre relay. De Grasse anchored Canada to medals in the relay at the past two Games, bronze in 2016 and then silver in Tokyo three years ago.

"It's been a tough 24, 48 hours," De Grasse said. "But I've just got to try to keep my head and see if I can support my team any way I can tomorrow with the 4x100 relay."

Lyles might be the Fastest Man Alive, but he wasn't even fastest in his 200 semi

HOWARD FENDRICH
SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE

What was supposed to be the easy half of Noah Lyles's historic Olympic sprint double isn't looking quite so easy any more.

Newly crowned the Fastest Man Alive after a close-as-can-be win by five thousandths of a second in the 100 meters at the 2024 Games, Lyles was not even the fastest man in his semi-final of the 200 on Wednesday night. He was good enough to make it into that event's final, anyway.

The 200 is Lyles's preferred, and better, distance – one at which he had not lost a race in three full years. That streak was snapped at

the Stade de France, where Letsile Tebogo of Botswana beat him to the line by crossing in 19.96 seconds, 0.12 faster than runner-up Lyles. They'll have a rematch for the gold on Thursday night.

Getting golds in the 100 and 200 at a single Olympics is a rare feat. Usain Bolt accomplished that double at three Olympics in a row – in Beijing in 2008, London in 2012 and Rio de Janeiro in 2016. But until the Jamaican, no man had done it since Carl Lewis at Los Angeles in 1984.

At his last Games, eight years ago, Bolt was shutting it down late in his 200 semi-final, and suddenly realized Andre De Grasse was running hard. So Bolt dialled his speed back up and waggled a

finger at the Canadian. Fast-forward to the final: Bolt won easily.

Before pulling out his narrow win over Jamaica's Kishane Thompson in the 100 final on Sunday night, Lyles didn't finish first in his heat or his semi-final.

As anyone who pays any attention is well aware, Lyles is a showman who loves the spotlight and enjoys spending time with a microphone.

That's obvious from his meandering and gesturing on the purple track in Paris before he runs or such statements as the offhand comparison between track and the NBA that went viral last year: "The thing that hurts me the most is I have to watch the NBA Finals and they have 'World

Champion' on their head," Lyles said. "World champion of what? The United States?"

So it raised some eyebrows when Lyles skipped the interview area after Wednesday's run, and U.S. team officials said he was heading to the medical tent. His coach, Lance Brauman, told The Associated Press: "He's fine."

That might just add a bit more intrigue in the 24 hours until the medals are at stake.

There already was plenty. Is Lyles, a 27-year-old from Florida, at his best? How much did he care about the semi-final, when lane placements are determined but all that truly matters is moving on to the round that determines the medals? Will Lyles

find some extra fuel from being outdone in front of a full house of about 80,000?

Was the 21-year-old Tebogo, the 200 bronze medalist at worlds but making his Olympic debut, trying to send a message? Is he ready to challenge for a gold?

And what about Kenny Bednarek, Lyles's U.S. teammate and the Tokyo Games silver medalist, who ran in a different semi-final and won it in 20 seconds flat, the evening's second-fastest time? Or Erryon Knighton, a 20-year-old American seen as the next threat, but whose only victories over Lyles came in the opening rounds of the 2021 Olympic trials.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian basketball teams fall short of expectations

Despite no medals from all three teams in Paris, there is hope that bigger things are yet to come

GEMMA KARSTENS-SMITH PARIS

Jordi Fernandez wants the sting of disappointment to stick with his players. That's how Canada's men's basketball team will grow, the head coach said Tuesday after the country was ousted from the Olympics. "I think if you remember this feeling, it's not a good feeling," Fernandez said. "And you come back to the Olympics and you remember this feeling, that's how you break through." Canada was expected to challenge for three basketball medals in Paris. Instead, all three teams are heading home without hardware. "Teams that I've been part of

that have won and had lots of success, there's always some disappointment at some point. You don't know how much you can do until you go through tough times," Fernandez said. "I think we've had success because we've won a lot of games in the last two years. But in this tough time we cannot forget. We cannot forget how this feels. And that's how we move on." The men's team came to Paris ranked seventh in the world and riding high after claiming bronze at last summer's FIBA World Cup. A star-studded squad headlined by Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Toronto Raptors forward R.J. Barrett went 3-0 in preliminary round play before suffering an ugly 82-73 loss to the French in the quarter-finals Tuesday. Canada finished the tournament fifth overall. The Canadian men had not played in the Olympics since the 2000 Games in Sydney, and a lack of experience may have played a

role in Paris. "Obviously it's the best basketball players in the world. So it's a very hard tournament, if not the hardest," Gilgeous-Alexander said. "And once you get to the elimination round, everything matters a little bit more. And I think we'll be more prepared for that next time." Canada's women's team also had high hopes of reaching the podium. Ranked fifth in the world heading into the tournament, the group featured four current WNBA players and eight athletes with Olympic experience. The Canadians struggled from the outset, however, starting with a 75-54 loss to France where the host nation went on a 22-0 run in the second quarter. Canada then dropped games to Australia and Nigeria, and crashed out of the tournament following a winless preliminary round. The country finished 11th overall, down from its ninth-place finish at the Tokyo Games.

The results aren't indicative of how the team is trending, said guard Shay Colley. "I think [the future] is very bright for us" she said. "We have young players Aaliyah [Edwards], Laeticia [Amihire] in the WNBA, we also have Kia [Nurse] and Bridget [Carleton] still in their prime. So I feel like it's going to be a great group when we get time together and continue our journey." Head coach Victor Lapena also believes big things are in store for the Canadian women's team. "This program is amazing. The Canada Basketball program has a tremendous future, as you saw on the court with some of our kids," he said. "And looking towards the future, we need just time. Time to breathe, time to think about what we need to be better at next time when we play in these kinds of events. Because this program deserves to always be playing big games like this." Canada's women's 3x3 team fared better at the Paris Games.

After going 4-3 in round-robin action, the Canadians topped Australia to earn a semi-final spot. There, they lost a spirited contest to eventual gold medal winners Germany. In the bronze medal matchup, the team fell 16-13 to the United States. Paris marked Canada's first Olympic appearance in the discipline, which made its debut in Tokyo three years ago. The country's 3x3 program is still in its infancy, created in 2019 by twin sisters Michelle and Katherine Plouffe, who'd spent years with the national women's team. The goal was always to grow the game, Michelle Plouffe said. "To have an actual program now, and to have the support of Canada Basketball, and to have girls who are now interested in playing 3x3, it's huge," she said. Plouffe said she doesn't know what's next for her personally, but she believes the 3x3 program is just getting started.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FIVE THINGS TO WATCH AT THE GAMES ON THURSDAY

MARATHON SWIM
Edmonton's Emma Finlin is scheduled to compete in the women's marathon swimming event in the morning as concerns swirl over the Seine River's water quality. A test run meant to allow Olympic athletes to familiarize themselves with the 10-kilometre course, which is supposed to start and finish at Pont Alexandre III, was cancelled Tuesday amid fluctuating bacteria levels in the long-polluted waterway.

RELAYS AT THE TRACK
The much anticipated men's and women's 4x100-metre relay competitions get under way. Up first is Canada's women's squad racing in the second heat at Stade de France. They'll be followed by the men's quartet who are also competing in Heat 2. The men won a silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics led by star sprinter Andre De Grasse.

HOPING TO LIFT A MEDAL
Maude Charron of Rimouski, Que., is vying to build on her performance in Tokyo where she captured weightlifting gold in the women's 64-kilogram division. With that event removed from the Olympics this time around, Charron is set to compete in the 59-kilogram category. Charron was one of Canada's flagbearers, along with sprinter Andre De Grasse, at the Paris opening ceremony.

KAYAK SEMIS
Canada will seek to qualify for the Olympic final in both men's and women's kayak four. The women's 500-metre semi-final is up first, where the Canadians will try to be among the two fastest against Serbia, Australia and Norway. In the men's category, Canada's heat will also feature Ukraine, Australia, Spain and Serbia, with the fastest four qualifying for the final.

HURDLE FINALS
Saskatoon's Savannah Sutherland carries Canada's medal hopes in the women's 400-metre hurdles final. The 21-year-old was one of two non-automatic qualifiers with a time of 53.80 seconds to finish fourth in the third semi-final heat on Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	68	46	.596	—
Baltimore	67	47	.588	1
Boston	61	51	.545	6
Tampa Bay	57	55	.509	10
Toronto	52	61	.460	15 1/2
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	67	47	.588	—
Minnesota	63	50	.558	3 1/2
Kansas City	63	52	.548	4 1/2
Detroit	54	60	.474	13
Chicago	28	89	.239	40 1/2
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	59	55	.518	—
Seattle	59	55	.518	—
Texas	54	61	.470	5 1/2
Los Angeles	49	64	.434	9 1/2
Oakland	48	68	.414	12

Arizona 7, Cleveland 3, 1st game
Chicago Cubs 8, Minnesota 2
Houston at Texas
Oakland 3, Chicago White Sox 2
N.Y. Yankees 5, L.A. Angels 2, 1st game
Arizona 5, Cleveland 3, 2nd game
Baltimore at Toronto
L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, 2nd game
Tampa Bay at St. Louis
Boston at Kansas City
Detroit at Seattle

Tuesday

Toronto 5, Baltimore 2
St. Louis 4, Tampa Bay 3
Chicago Cubs 7, Minnesota 3
Houston 4, Texas 2
Boston 6, Kansas City 5
Chicago White Sox 5, Oakland 1
Detroit 4, Seattle 2
Arizona at Cleveland, ppd.
L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, ppd.

Thursday

L.A. Angels (Anderson 8-10) at N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 5-9), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Kremer 4-8) at Toronto (Gausman 9-8), 7:07 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Baz 0-1) at St. Louis (Gibson 7-4), 7:15 p.m.
Detroit (TBD) at Seattle (Woo 5-1), 9:40 p.m.

Friday

Cleveland at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m., 1st game
L.A. Angels at Washington, 6:45 p.m.
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
Texas at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Oakland at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Houston at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m., 2nd game
St. Louis at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.
Detroit at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	67	46	.593	—
Atlanta	60	52	.536	6 1/2
New York	59	54	.522	8
Washington	52	62	.456	15 1/2
Miami	42	72	.368	25 1/2
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	63	49	.563	—
St. Louis	58	56	.509	6
Pittsburgh	56	56	.500	7
Chicago	57	60	.487	8 1/2
Cincinnati	55	58	.487	8 1/2
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	66	48	.579	—
Arizona	63	52	.548	3 1/2
San Diego	62	52	.544	4
San Francisco	57	58	.496	9 1/2
Colorado	42	72	.368	24

Arizona 7, Cleveland 3, 1st game
Chicago Cubs 8, Minnesota 2
Arizona 5, Cleveland 3, 2nd game
Cincinnati at Miami
San Diego at Pittsburgh
San Francisco at Washington
Milwaukee at Atlanta
Tampa Bay at St. Louis
N.Y. Mets at Colorado
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers

Tuesday

San Diego 6, Pittsburgh 0
Cincinnati 8, Miami 2
Washington 11, San Francisco 5
Milwaukee 10, Atlanta 0
St. Louis 4, Tampa Bay 3
Chicago Cubs 7, Minnesota 3
Colorado 6, N.Y. Mets 3
Philadelphia 6, L.A. Dodgers 2
Arizona at Cleveland, ppd.

Thursday

San Francisco (Harrison 6-5) at Washington (Herz 2-4), 12:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Montas 5-8) at Atlanta (Morton 6-6), 12:20 p.m.
San Diego (Vásquez 3-6) at Pittsburgh (Ortiz 5-2), 12:35 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Peterson 5-1) at Colorado (Gomber 3-7), 3:10 p.m.
Cincinnati (Greene 8-4) at Miami (TBD), 6:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Baz 0-1) at St. Louis (Gibson 7-4), 7:15 p.m.
Philadelphia (TBD) at Arizona (Montgomery 7-5), 9:40 p.m.

Friday

L.A. Angels at Washington, 6:45 p.m.
San Diego at Miami, 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Chi. White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Cincinnati at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Philadelphia at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.
Detroit at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

2024 MLS-LIGA MX LEAGUES CUP

(Note: Games do not count in standings)
GROUP STAGE
Tuesday
New England 1 Nashville 1
(New England wins 5-4 on penalties)
END OF GROUP STAGE

SECOND ROUND

(Round of 32)
Wednesday
Austin vs. Los Angeles F.C.
Pumas (Liga MX) vs. Vancouver
Thursday
All Times Eastern
Toronto vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Galaxy vs. Seattle, 10:30 p.m.
Necaxa (Liga MX) vs. San Jose, 11 p.m.
At Austin, Texas
Pachuca (Liga MX) vs. Tigres (Liga MX), 9 p.m.

Friday
Santos (Liga MX) vs. Cincinnati, 7:30 pm
Columbus vs. Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
D.C. vs. Mazatlan (Liga MX), 7:30 pm
N.Y. City vs. New England, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando vs. Cruz Azul (Liga MX), 7:30 pm
Montreal vs. Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Portland vs. St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.
Toluca (Liga MX) vs. Houston, 8:30 pm
Juarez (Liga MX) vs. Colorado, 9:30 pm
At San Diego, Calif.
America (Liga MX) vs. Atlas, 10 p.m.

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	17	17
Halifax	15	4	7	4	20	16	16

Saturday — All Times Eastern
Halifax at Calgary, 4 p.m.
Ottawa at Hamilton, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 11
Victoria at Vancouver, 5 p.m.
York at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.

CEBL

CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND
At Montreal
Friday, Aug. 9
CONFERENCE FINALS
West — Vancouver vs. Calgary, 5:30 p.m.
East — Niagara vs. Montreal, 8 p.m.
CEBL CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday, Aug. 11
East vs. West Winners, 6 p.m.
PAST CHAMPIONS
2023 — Scarborough
2022 — Hamilton
2021 — Edmonton

CFL

WEEK 10

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: Winnipeg
Thursday
All Times Eastern
Saskatchewan at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Friday
Calgary at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 10
Hamilton at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 11
British Columbia at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

CFL SCORING LEADERS

Unofficial CFL scoring leaders following Week 9 (x — scored two-point convert)

	TD	C	FG	S	Pt
S. Castillo, Wpg	0	12	28	2	98
S. Whyte, BC	0	15	24	0	87
L. Ward, Otl	0	9	25	2	86
R. Paredes, Cgy	0	15	23	1	85
B. Lauther, Sask	0	21	19	2	80
L. Hajrullahu, Tor	0	16	18	1	71
M. Liegghio, Ham	0	19	16	0	67
B. Beede, Edm	0	17	15	3	65
D. Cote, Mtl	0	12	10	0	42
x-J. McInnis, BC	6	2	0	0	38
C. Streveler, Wpg	6	0	0	0	36
D. Prukop, Edm	6	0	0	0	36
J. Maltos, Mtl	0	7	8	1	32
Ka'D. Carey, Tor	5	0	0	0	30

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.

HLINKA GRETZKY CUP

PRELIMINARY ROUND

At Edmonton										
All Times Eastern										
GROUP A										
	GP	W	OW	OL	L	GF	GA	Pt		
Canada	2	2	0	0	0	15	1	6		
Sweden	2	1	1	0	0	14	2	5		
Slovakia	2	0	0	1	1	2	7	1		
Switzerland	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0		
GROUP B										
	GP	W	OW	OL	L	GF	GA	Pt		
Czechia	3	3	0	0	0	13	5	9		
United States	2	1	0	0	1	4	3	3		
Germany	2	0	0	1	1	5	8	2		
Finland	3	0	0	1	2	4	9	1		

Wednesday
Czechia 4 Finland 1
United States vs. Germany
Switzerland vs. Slovakia
Sweden vs. Canada

END OF PRELIMINARY ROUND
Tuesday
Canada 5. Slovakia 1
Czechia 7 Germany 3
Sweden 12 Switzerland 1
United States 3 Finland 1

PLAYOFFS

Friday
FIFTH PLACE
Third A vs. Third B, 2 p.m.
SEVENTH PLACE
Fourth A vs. Fourth B, 3 p.m.
SEMIFINALS
First A vs. Second B, 5:30 or 9:30 p.m.
First B vs. Second A, 5:30 or 9:30 p.m.

TELEVISION

THURSDAY (ALL TIMES EASTERN)

OLYMPICS
Morning/Primetime, Day 13, SN Ontario, East, West, Pacific, 4:50 a.m., TSN 1, 4, 5 a.m., CBC, 8 a.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m.
Men's Diving, 3m Springboard Final, CBC, 9 a.m.
Women's Volleyball: Brazil vs. U.S., NBC, 10 a.m.
Women's Beach Volleyball, Switzerland vs. Canada, CBC, 11 a.m.
Daytime, SN Ontario, East, West, Pacific, 12 p.m.
Track Cycling, Day 13, CBC, 12 p.m.
Men's Beach Volleyball, First Semifinal, NBC, 12 p.m.
Track and Field Finals: Men's 200m & More, NBC, 1:35 p.m.
Women's Beach Volleyball Semifinal, NBC, 4 p.m.
GOLF
PGA Tour: Wyndham Championship, First Round, Golf Channel, 3 p.m.
U.S. Women's Amateur, Rounds of 32 & 16, TSN 3, 3 p.m.

WTA WORLD TOUR

NATIONAL BANK OPEN

Wednesday
At Toronto
Purse: \$3,211,715
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor
WOMEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 64
Paula Badosa, Spain, def. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 6-1, 6-4.
Elise Mertens, Belgium, def. Katie Volynets, United States, 6-3, 6-1.
Peyton Stearns, United States, def. Anna Blinkova, Russia, 6-4, 6-3.
Beatriz Haddad Maia (13), Brazil, def. Marie Bouzkova, Czechia, 5-7, 6-2, 7-6 (1).
Diana Shnaider (14), Russia, def. Harriet Dart, Britain, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (2).
Marina Stakusic, Mississauga, def. Erika Andreeva, Russia, 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4.
Amanda Anisimova, United States, def. Caroline Dolehide, United States, 6-1, 6-4.
Magda Linette, Poland, def. Rebecca Marino, Vancouver, 6-3, 6-4.
Naomi Osaka, Japan, def. Ons Jabeur, Tunisia, 6-3, 6-1.
Ashlyn Krueger, United States, def. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 6-3, 6-2.
Yuan Yue, China, def. Cristina Bucsa, Spain, 6-3, 6-3.
WOMEN'S DOUBLES — ROUND OF 32
Wang Yafan, China, and Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, def. Bibiane Schoofs, Netherlands, and Alycia Parks, United States, 6-4, 3-6, 10-5.
Sloane Stephens and Taylor Townsend, United States, def. Olivia Nicholls, Britain, and Tereza Mihalikova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.

FRIDAY
Fifth Place: Third A vs. Third B, 2 p.m.
Seventh Place: Fourth A vs. Fourth B, 3 p.m.
Semifinals: First A vs. Second B, 5:30 or

Canada at the Games

AHMED TANGLED UP

Moh Ahmed was in the top seven with about 400 metres left in his 5,000-metre heat when he tripped over the leg of a runner in front of him and took a fall. A handful of other runners fell not long after. The 33-year-old from St. Catharines, Ont., who earned silver in the event at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, got up and continued running but finished 16th with a time of 14 minutes 15.76 seconds. “We have watched the video several times with the WA [World Athletics] video referee and it was clear that Moh was not impeded or jostled before this happened and so it is considered his responsibility to avoid the athlete in front,” Athletics Canada said in a statement. Thomas Fafard of Repentigny, Que., did advance in eighth place in Heat 1 with a time of 14:09.37 at Stade de France.

OTHERS ADVANCE

In track cycling, Lauriane Genest of Levis, Que., and Kelsey Mitchell of Sherwood Park, Alta., advanced to the quarter-finals of the women’s keirin by winning their repechage races. Genest won bronze in the event at the Tokyo Games, while Mitchell, the reigning Olympic individual sprint champion, was fifth. In sprint canoe, Michelle Russell of Fall River, N.S., and Riley Melanson of Dartmouth, N.S., both qualified for the women’s singles 500-metre semis. In the men’s 800, Edmonton’s Marco Arop qualified for Friday’s semi-finals finishing second in Heat 1 with a time of 1:45.74. Arop is the reigning world champion in the event. Mariam Abdul-Rashid of Oshawa, Ont., made it into the women’s 100 hurdles semi-finals grabbing one of three non-automatic qualifying spots with a time of 12.80 seconds and placing fifth in Heat 3.

CBC SCORES WITH WOMEN’S SOCCER QUARTER-FINAL

CBC says Team Canada women’s soccer match against Germany has been the country’s most-watched moment of the Paris Olympics to date. The public broadcaster says 3.4 million viewers across CBC, Radio-Canada and RDS caught the end of Saturday’s quarter-final match. The nail-biter saw Canada fall to Germany in a shootout, eliminating any hopes for a medal. There was added attention on Canada’s women’s soccer team, which entered the knockout round with a six-point penalty from FIFA because of a drone spying scandal. The team previously won gold at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

CANADA’S 3X3 HOOPS TEAM FALLS SHORT OF MEDAL

PARIS Canada’s 3x3 women’s basketball team came painfully close to the podium at the Paris Olympics. Emphasis on painful. After 10 gritty games, countless bumps and bruises, and three stitches, the Canadians finished fourth in their Olympic debut. “It feels like you lose the medal two times. You lose in the semis and then you lose in the bronze,” said Paige Crozon of Humboldt, Sask. “There’s no way to sugar coat it. It felt terrible. We came here with a podium finish in mind, so it was heartbreaking to come up short.” The Canadians advanced to the semi-finals where they battled with eventual gold medal winners Germany, dropping the spirited matchup 17-16 on a last-second shot. A 16-13 loss to the Americans in the bronze medal game followed.

DUNFEE WEARS TWO HATS

Canadian race walk athlete Evan Dunfee took on two roles in the Olympic debut of the marathon race walk mixed relay today as he acted as both competitor and coach. The 33-year-old from Richmond, B.C. teamed up with his student Olivia Lundman for a 20th place in the event, which was ultimately won by Spain. While their time was well behind the top finishers, the race was a valuable learning experience for the 21-year-old Lundman, who is in her first Olympics. Dunfee, 33, is a bronze medalist from Tokyo in the men’s 50-kilometre event, which is no longer on the Olympic program. The mixed relay replaces that event, and involves a male and female athlete walking a full marathon distance in alternating legs, with each athlete completing two approximately 10-kilometre stretches.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Around the Games

U.S. WOMEN’S PURSUIT TEAM ENDS GOLD DROUGHT

MONTIGNY-LE-BRETONNEUX, FRANCE The U.S. women’s pursuit team of road race Olympic champion Kristen Faulkner, Chloe Dygert, Jennifer Valente and Lilly Williams held on through a ragged finish to beat New Zealand in the race for gold at the Paris Games on Wednesday night. The Americans led by more than a second a quarter of the way through the 4,000-metre race and stretched the lead at one point to nearly two seconds. They gave the U.S. its first gold in the event after 12 years of close calls. The American women’s pursuit program similarly has been chasing gold ever since the 2012 London Games, when it finished second to Britain. It lost a rematch four years later in Rio de Janeiro, and then in Tokyo, the U.S. had to beat Canada for bronze.

U.S. WEIGHTLIFTER ENDS MEDAL DROUGHT

PARIS Hampton Morris does not have a driver’s licence. He does have an Olympic bronze medal. The 20-year-old who trains in his garage at home in Marietta, Georgia, on Wednesday became the first U.S. men’s weightlifter to take home a medal of any colour at the Games in four decades. Narrowly missing out on a world record that would have gotten him silver, Morris followed Mario Martinez and Guy Carlton from Los Angeles in 1984 as the most recent American men to medal at the Olympics. Li Fabin of China defended his 61-kg division Olympic weightlifting title after going in as the overwhelming favourite to repeat. The 31-year-old set a Games snatch record by lifting 143 kilograms on his third and final attempt, paving the way for gold when he got to 167 kilograms in the clean and jerk for a score of 310. Li became the first weightlifter with back-to-back Olympic titles since Naim Suleymanoglu of Turkey won three in a row from 1988-96. Theerapong Silachai of Thailand got the silver for medal at 303. China defended another gold medal hours later when Hou Zhihui won the women’s 49-kilogram division.

BOUTIER DAZZLES FRENCH CROWD WITH 65

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, FRANCE For all the countless times Celine Boutier has played Le Golf National, what carried her to a seven-under 65 and a three-shot lead Wednesday in the Olympics were the two days when she didn’t even have her clubs. Boutier watched from the gallery over the weekend as the French fans cheered and chanted and sang for Victor Perez and Matthieu Pavon, ovations they rarely hear anywhere else. When it was her time to perform, the 30-year-old from France delivered a round to remember. On a course so difficult that only two players broke 70, Boutier rolled in seven birdie putts and chipped in for another birdie to steal the show. Ashleigh Buhai of South Africa had a 68, and only 10 other players broke par. The group at 70 included Gabby Lopez of Mexico and Lilia Vu. Alena Sharp of Hamilton shot an opening round of one under par, and is tied for seventh. Brooke Henderson of Smiths Falls, Ont., was two over and tied for 30th.

AUSTRALIAN REPEATS AS PARK SKATEBOARDING CHAMPION

PARIS Australia’s Keegan Palmer scored a 93.11 Wednesday to successfully defend his Olympic park skateboarding title at the Paris Games. His performance wowed a crowd that included skateboarding legend Tony Hawk, Snoop Dogg and U.S. basketball star Devin Booker. The 21-year-old Palmer took gold in the sport’s Olympic debut three years ago in Tokyo. He led in the prelims Wednesday and then throughout the finals after posting the top score on the first of his three runs. He’d already secured the gold medal before his final run and fell after also crashing on his second run. But his magnificent first run was all he needed to go home with another gold medal. American Tom Schaar posted a 92.23 on his second run to win silver. Brazil’s Augusto Akio won bronze. The oldest skateboarder at the Games, Britain’s Andy Macdonald, 51, failed to make it on to the podium but he won over the rowdy crowds at the packed La Concorde stadium. “I definitely won the gold medal for most fun,” Macdonald told journalists. “I’m so excited just to be have qualified for Paris because that was like the Hail Mary long shot from the get-go.”

KENNEDY WINS POLE VAULT FOR AUSTRALIA’S RECORD 18TH GOLD

Nina Kennedy bounced off the pole vault mats and punched the air once, twice, three times. She ran over to the Olympic crowd and took another three swings at the air. Aussies in the stands flew the flag, shook green-and-gold banners and held up yellow inflatable kangaroos. Kennedy didn’t know at that stage she would deliver Australia an 18th gold medal at the Paris Games – a national record for the Olympics. That was just the celebration for clearing the height to take the lead. Kennedy clinched the victory a bit later Wednesday when Tokyo Olympic gold medallist Katie Moon failed to clear 4.95 metres after a three-hour final. Kennedy delivered Australia’s fourth gold medal on Day 12 to help surpass the country’s previous record total of 17 golds for a Summer Games – set at the 2004 Athens Olympics and in Tokyo three years ago. The Australians moved from 14 to 18 gold medals in about six hours, while most of the country Down Under was sleeping. The productive stretch had Australia ranked third in the gold-medal standings behind the United States and China with four days of the Paris Games remaining.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATHLETICS

MEN

400M Final
1. Quincy Hall, United States, 43.40.
2. Matthew Hudson-Smith, Britain, 43.44.
3. Muzala Samukonga, Zambia, 43.74.
DISCUS THROW Final
1. Roje Stona, Jamaica, (70.00), 229-8.
2. M. Alekna, Lithuania, (69.97), 229-6-3-4.
3. M. Denny, Australia, (69.31), 227-4-3-4.
3000M STEEPLECHASE Final
1. Soufiane El Bakkali, Morocco, 8:06.05.
2. Kenneth Rooks, United States, 8:06.41.
3. Abraham Kibiwot, Kenya, 8:06.47.

WOMEN

POLE VAULT Final
1. Nina Kennedy, Australia, (4.90), 16-1.
2. Katie Moon, United States, (4.85), 15-11.
3. Alysha Newman, Canada, (4.85), 15-11.

MIXED TEAM

MARATHON RACE WALK RELAY Final
1. Spain (Alvaro Martin; Maria Perez; Alvaro Martin; Maria Perez), 2:50:31.
2. Ecuador (Brian Daniel Pintado; Glenda Morejon; Brian Daniel Pintado; Glenda Morejon), 2:51:22.
3. Australia (Rhydian Cowley; Jemima Montag; Rhydian Cowley; Jemima Montag), 2:51:38.

BASKETBALL

MEN

Thursday, August 8 SEMIFINALS
France vs. Germany 11:30 a.m.
Serbia vs. United States 3 p.m.

WOMEN

Wednesday, August 7 QUARTERFINALS
Australia 85, Serbia 67
Belgium 79, Spain 66
France 84, Germany 71
United States 88, Nigeria 74
Friday, August 9 SEMIFINALS
France vs. Belgium 11:30 a.m.
United States vs. Australia 3 p.m.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

MEN

Wednesday, August 7 QUARTERFINALS
Norway 2, Spain 0 (21-16, 21-17)
Qatar 2, United States 0 (21-14, 21-16)
Thursday, August 8 SEMIFINALS
Germany vs Norway 12 p.m.
Qatar vs Sweden 4 p.m.

WOMEN

Wednesday, August 7 QUARTERFINALS
Canada 2, Spain 0 (21-18, 21-18)
Brazil 2, Latvia 0 (21-16, 21-10)

WHAT CANADA DID

WEDNESDAY

(distances in metres)
ATHLETICS
Women’s 100 hurdles — Mariam Abdul-Rashid of Oshawa, Ont., posted the 14th-fastest time in qualifying (12.80 seconds) which was sufficient to earn a berth in the semifinals; Michelle Harrison, Saskatoon, was 37th overall (13.40) and will race in the repechage round.
Women’s 1,500 — In their repechage round, Lucia Stafford, Toronto, was fifth overall (4:04.26); Simone Plourde, Montreal, was 15th (4:08.49); and Kate Curran, Cobourg, Ont., 17th (4:08.91) — none qualified for the semifinals.
Women’s pole vault — Alysha Newman, Delaware, Ont., set a Canadian record in winning the bronze medal with a best-mark of 4.85 metres.
Mixed marathon race walk — Olivia Lundman of Lantzville, B.C., and Evan Dunfee, Richmond, B.C., finished seventh, completing the 42.195 kilometres in a time of 3:04.57.

Thursday, August 8 SEMIFINALS
Switzerland vs Canada 11 a.m.
Brazil vs Australia 3 p.m.

CYCLING

MEN’S TEAM

PURSUIT Pursuit, Finals FOR BRONZE
3. Italy (Simone Consonni; Filippo Ganna; Francesco Lamon; Jonathan Milan), 3:44.197.
4. Denmark (Tobias Aagaard Hansen; Niklas Larsen; Carl-Frederik Bevort; Rasmus Lund Pedersen), 3:46.138.
FOR GOLD
1. Australia (Oliver Bledny; Sam Welsford; Connor Leahy; Kelland O’Brien), 3:42.067.
2. Britain (Ethan Hayler; Daniel Bigham; Charlie Tanfield; Ethan Vernon; Oliver Wood), 3:44.394.

WOMEN’S TEAM

PURSUIT Pursuit, Finals FOR BRONZE
3. Britain (Elinor Barker; Josie Knight; Anna Morris; Jessica Roberts), 4:06.382.
4. Italy (Elisa Balsamo; Chiara Consonni; Martina Fidanza; Vittoria Guazzini; Letizia Paternoster), 4:08.961.
FOR GOLD
1. United States (Jennifer Valente; Lily Williams; Chloe Dygert; Kristen Faulkner), 4:04.306.
2. New Zealand (Ally Wollaston; Bryony Botha; Emily Shearman; Nicole Shields), 4:04.927.

GOLF

WOMEN

At Guyancourt, France Yardage: 6,374; Par: 72 FIRST ROUND
NOTE — Top 11 results
Celine Boutier, France 33-32—65

Men’s 200 — Andre De Grasse, Markham, Ont. — the reigning Olympic champion from Tokyo — was 10th overall in the semifinal round (20.41); Aaron Brown (20.57) and Brendon Rodney (20.59), both Toronto, finished 15th and 16th, respectively — none qualified for the final. Their final hopes for a medal will be in the 4x100 relay, in which they all won a silver in 2021.
Men’s 800 — Marco Arop, Edmonton, earned an automatic path to the semifinals by being second in his qualifying heat (1:45.74).
Men’s 5,000 — Thomas Fafard, Repentigny, Que., earned a spot in the final by finishing eighth in his qualifier (14:09.37); Ben Flanagan, Kitchener, Ont., was 17th overall in the preliminaries (13:59.23) and Mohammed Ahmed, St. Catharines, Ont., 26th (14:09.37) — neither advanced.
Men’s steeplechase — Jean-Simon Desgagnés, Saint-Ferreol-les-Neiges, Que., placed 13th in the event (8:18.31).
BEACH VOLLEYBALL
Women — Melissa Humana-Paredes and Brandie Wilkerson, both Toronto, won their quarterfinal match over Dan-

iel Alvarez and Tania Moreno of Spain, 2-0 (21-18, 21-18). They will meet Nina Brunner and Tanja Huberli of Switzerland in the semifinals on Thursday.

CANOE/KAYAK

Women’s K1 500 — Michelle Russell, Fall River, N.S., was second in her quarterfinal heat (1:49.79) to earn an automatic berth in Saturday’s semifinals; Riley Melanson, Dartmouth, N.S., was third in her race (1:50.16) and will attempt to advance through the semifinals.
Men’s C1 1,000 — Connor Fitzpatrick, Dartmouth, N.S., was second in his qualifying heat (3:50.79) to automatically move on to the semifinal round.

CYCLING (TRACK)

Women’s Keirin — Lauriane Genest of Levis, Que., and Kelsey Mitchell, Sherwood Park, Alta., won their respective repechage races to earn berths in the semifinals.

Women’s team pursuit — Canada (Erin Athwell, Victoria; Ariane Bonhomme, Gatineau, Que.; Maggie Coles-Lyster, Maple Ridge, B.C.; and Sarah Van Dam, Victoria) finished eighth overall in the event after losing to Australia by 0.549 seconds in the race to determine

seventh place.

Men’s sprint — In the repechage round, both Canadians were in the same race with Tyler Horke, Baden, Ont., finishing 0.417 seconds behind Rayan Helal of France, and Nick Wammes, Bothwell, Ont., was third (1:02.0 seconds slower than the winner) — neither advanced to the round-of-16.
Men’s team pursuit — Canada (Dylan Bibic, Mississauga, Ont.; Michael Foley, Milton, Ont.; Mathias Guillemette, Trois-Rivieres, Que.; and Carson Mattern, Ancaster, Ont.) won the seventh-place race by lapping the team from Belgium.
DIVING
Women’s three-metre springboard — Margo Erlam, Calgary, did not qualify for the finals after placing 22nd in the preliminary round with a score of 258.30.

GOLF

Women — Alena Sharp, Hamilton, carded a one-under 71 in the opening round and is six shots behind the leader from France; Brooke Henderson, Smiths Falls, Ont., had a 74.
SAILING
Women’s ILCA 6dinghy — Sarah Douglas, Toronto, finished third in the medal

race and ended up in eighth-place overall at the event.

Women’s Kiteboarding — For the second day in a row, Emily Bugeja of North Vancouver had her races postponed due to wind conditions. They will attempt to finish the opening series and the medal runs on Thursday.
SWIMMING (ARTISTIC)
Mixed team — Canada (Scarlett Finn, Toronto; Audrey Lamothe, Montreal; Jonnie Newman, Calgary; Raphaëlle Plante, Québec City; Kenzie Priddell, Regina; Claire Scheffel, Brantford, Ont.; Jacqueline Simoneau, Saint-Laurent, Que.; and Florence Tremblay, Rimouski, Que.) were sixth in the acrobatic routine with 253.0567 points and finished the overall team event also in sixth place (859.2229).

, 112-247; 1, 93-205; 3, 112-247), 205-452.
3. Surodchana Khambao, Thailand (, 86-190, 110-243, 88-194, 112-247, 88-194; , 114-251; 4, 88-194; 2, 112-247), 200-441.

WRESTLING

MEN

GRECO-ROMAN 97KG
Bronze Medal Matches
Gabriel Alejandro Rosillo Kindelan, Cuba, def. Rustam Assakalov, Uzbekistan, 2-0, Injury.
Uzuz Dzhuzupbekov, Kyrgyzstan, def. Mohamed Gabr, Egypt, 0-1, 2-0, Points.
Final
Mohammadhadi Saravi, Iran, def. Artur Aleksanyan, Armenia, 0-1, 4-0, Points.
GRECO-ROMAN 77KG
Bronze Medal Matches
Malkhas Amoyan, Armenia, def. Aram Vardanyan, Uzbekistan, 6-0, 0-5, Points.
Akhkol Makhmudov, Kyrgyzstan, def. Sanan Suleymanov, Azerbaijan, 0-1, 6-4, Points.
Final
Nao Kusaka, Japan, def. Demeu Zhadravev, Kazakhstan, 0-2, 5-0, Points.

WOMEN

FREESTYLE 50KG
Bronze Medal Matches
Yui Susaki, Japan, def. Oksana Livach, Ukraine, 0-0, 2-0, Technical Superiority.
Feng Ziqi, China, def. Otonjonali Dolgoyev, Mongolia, 6-2, 0-2, Points.
Final
Sarah Ann Hildebrandt, United States, def. Yusyniyev Guzman Lopez, Cuba, 2-0, 1-0, Points.

MEDAL TABLE

216 OF 329 TOTAL EVENTS				
	G	S	B	Tot
United States	27	35	32	94
China	25	23	17	65
France	13	17	21	51
Britain	12	17	20	49
Australia	18	12	11	41
Japan	12	6	13	31
South Korea	12	8	7	27
Italy	9	10	8	27
Netherlands	9	5	6	20
Canada	6	4	9	19
Germany	8	5	5	18

RESULTS AS OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 9 P.M.

ALL TIMES EASTERN

Emma Finlin takes the plunge

As the only Canadian in marathon swimming in Paris, she's no stranger to unusual moments

GRANT ROBERTSON PARIS

Emma Finlin, Canada's only marathon swimmer in Paris, is used to the vagaries of her sport. If you're going to compete in open-water races, you have to be able to roll with the odd punch, so to speak.

And we're not just talking concerns over water quality, of which there have been many in the lead-up to Thursday's scheduled 10-kilometre race. In an event where swimmers travel in a pack, there is no shortage of body contact, either incidental or otherwise.

Marathon swimmers tell stories about errant elbows, pokes from strokes, surreptitious ankle grabs and, sometimes, even actual punches.

But none of the aforementioned hazards would necessarily qualify as the strangest thing to happen to Finlin during a competition.

"I got stung by a jelly fish," she says, recounting a particularly memorable event in Japan.

"There were four buoys we had to go around and I think there must have been a couple of jellyfish around the corner. I kind of got pushed under water, so I got it right to my face."

Even so, Finlin wasn't deterred.

"It stung for a couple hundred metres but I was okay."

Anyone who finds pool swimming too placid, with its carefully measured lane markers, pay attention: the open-water portion of the Summer Olympics is about to begin.

The 10-kilometre event is a water-bound test of will. Swimmers will churn up and down the Seine, at times going with the current and against it. When Finlin needs nourishment mid-race, her coach will extend a long pole, from which she will grab a biodegradable bottle containing a mix of carbohydrates and electrolytes.

"I'd say the feeding stations are pretty difficult because there's so many girls coming in and you're trying to find your



Emma Finlin takes part in the women's 1,500-metre freestyle during the Canadian Olympic swim trials in Toronto in May. When making the jump from pool swimming to open-water swimming, Finlin acknowledges she was surprised by the physicality required of the sport.

NATHAN DENETTE/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

“With a 10K, it's definitely more spread out. So you don't get as many punches. Going around the buoys is where the cameras don't really catch all of it. So you get a few hits. So you've just got to be prepared for that.”

EMMA FINLIN
SWIMMER

bottle to feed off of," Finlin said. "That's where it gets pretty aggressive."

She acknowledges she was a little surprised by the physicality of the sport when she started out in 2022, making the jump from pool swimming.

"I didn't know that going into my first race, so that was a bit shocking," she said, noting that the nature of the race depends on its duration.

"With a 10K, it's definitely more spread out. So you don't get as many punches," she said with a laugh. "Going around the buoys is where the cameras don't really catch all of it. So you get a few hits. So you've just got to be prepared for that."

A lot of the contact comes from people moving their arms and legs in a hurry while in close proximity. Technically, the rules prohibit anything intentional. But as her coach Mark Perry points out, there are grey areas.

"It's non-contact, but one of the jokes within people that actually do it is, 'it's the only full-contact, non-contact sport there is,'" Perry said.

"Some of that comes from swimmers getting close because they want to draft off each other, which happens naturally," he said.

"But then obviously the side of it that's perhaps not very nice is some people use that kind of proximity to maybe gain advantages on the line of within the rules, I would say. But it's all part of it."

Swimmers who do distance swimming are comfortable with the contact.

"It's one of the things that kind of draws some people to the sport. They actually enjoy that," Perry said.

"It's obviously very different than swimming in a pool where you get your own lane."

The race in Paris is a bit unusual, too, because open-water events are typically held in lakes and oceans. The last time a major international competition was contested in a river was at the 2015 world championships in Russia.

"The thing to contend with really is the current," Perry said of the Seine.

Another challenge swimmers face is what they call "sighting," which involves using landmarks on shore to stay on course. At a meet in Doha, for example, Finlin relied on a large soccer stadium on the horizon to judge where she was.

"Sighting is pretty hard," Finlin said. "You kind of look for

landmarks or you work with your coaches."

Then there are the Seine water-quality concerns, which have dogged these Games, forcing the cancellation of a training session this week because of elevated bacterial counts.

Perhaps surprisingly, Finlin and her coach are the most sanguine about that variable. Such concerns follow the sport around the world, and are not just an issue in Paris. She's seen bad water before, at many meets.

"The water is often an unpredictable factor of open water, so we've become pretty adaptable and just kind of focus on what we can control," Finlin said.

The doctor responsible for keeping Canada's athletes healthy in France, Mike Wilkinson, said athletes will be deploying vaccines, such as those for hepatitis, and taking Dukoral for gastrointestinal problems, which are standard approaches.

Even with the heightened attention on the Seine, Wilkinson said he has fewer concerns about tracking water quality at the Paris Olympics than he did eight years ago at the Rio Summer Games, where there were similar concerns about bacterial counts.

"The data that we get for the water here certainly is better than what we were getting at Rio," Wilkinson said, adding there is much more transparency from local officials in France.

"To be perfectly honest, we've got scientific data that we can rely on, rather than just rhetoric. We're able to have very frank discussions about water quality, and the implications."

The sport is relatively new at the Olympics; the 10-km event was introduced at the Beijing Games in 2008.

Canada's lone medal in the sport is a bronze, from Richard Weinberger, at the 2012 London Games.

Finlin also tried to qualify for Paris in the pool, in the 1,500-metre event. Doing both at a future Summer Games is still a goal of hers, but she's fallen for the hustle and jostle of marathon swimming.

"I love the challenge of it. It's not just about how fit you are, speed-wise," she said. "It's more about tactics. And the more experience you get, it's just kind of fascinating to see how it unfolds every race."



Brooke Henderson of Smiths Falls, Ont., plays off the third tee during the first round of the women's golf event at the Summer Olympics on Wednesday at Le Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France. Henderson had an up-and-down round, ending at two over par. GEORGE WALKER IV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelly: Henderson cares about Olympic golf

FROM B10

At the end of the round, she sits at two over. The leader, France's Céline Boutier, is at seven under. Olympics on, but flickering.

Canada's other representative in the tournament, Alena Sharp, had a marvellous day. She finished one under, tied for seventh.

"I feel really good going into tomorrow," Sharp said. "I am very proud, actually."

Henderson was asked the Scheffler question. Usually, she is not expansive, but she was on this one.

"Interesting," she said, making that noise people make when something actually is interesting to them. "I would say some girls out here think it's equal [to a major], or even above. I think it's right up there."

For the record, that's two-time major winner Brooke Henderson giving the two-time major winner Scottie Scheffler answer.

One thing that can't be argued - golf is popular. Though it's a

trek to get out to the course, and a nightmare drive back into the city, it was teeming on Wednesday. The competitors seemed more than surprised. They sounded relieved.

"I wasn't sure what to expect stepping on that first green," said the biggest draw here, Nelly Korda of the United States. "Then I just looked out and saw people four deep."

Korda is a visual representation of golf's apartness. You don't see many Olympians getting out of the pool or leaving the mat wearing a \$300,000 watch, the way Korda does when she's coming off the course.

On that basis alone, this is shaping up as the first good golf experience at a Games.

It had a rough start at Rio 2016. No one wanted to go to Brazil. Half the men used Zika as an excuse. The course was a mess. Only the people who won medals had a good time.

In Tokyo, golf was verboten for COVID reasons. Those who golfed, golfed alone.

Here, finally, it feels as though it's working out. This is a course of estimation. People are into it. As Korda came off after her round, they chanted her name. Even Hull, who was disastrous, stopped to sign autographs for kids. At Los Angeles 2028, they'll play at Riviera. That should be the same vibe as an eight-day music festival.

Not everyone who plays here and then there will care all that much, and not everyone needs to. It's true that they might be doing it more for sponsors than for their country. But all they need to do is put on a show.

Henderson is one of those who cares. That's why she's going for it on 18. In a professional context, taking that sort of risk is good way to turn a paying gig into a money loser.

"It's a bigger stage," she said. "There's more meaning behind it."

For some. And that's enough. Not everything at the Olympics needs to be the most important thing that ever happened.

Newman: Vaulter was all smiles and laughs

FROM B10

"It was really fun, because I just kept challenging myself with a fresh pole that had no heaviness, no trauma, no breaks, no injuries," she said. "I felt light out there. I felt like a feather."

During the wait between jumps she took out a notebook and next to each height she wrote just one word: courage. "I just kept saying, 'Have courage. Have courage. Have courage.' And for some reason that word this year has been so powerful to my heart and to my veins. And it worked. Everything worked," she said.

Even when she missed at 4.90, she leaped off the mat smiling. "I laughed, because I'm like, dang it, you're so close. And you just smile, and it's laugh, and you laugh because the next jump, you're a better jumper."

Having never won a medal before, or even come close, she didn't know what to do when it was clear that she'd placed third, but the others still had jumps left. "It's funny because you have to sit still there and wait until the other girls are done. So, I'm, like, awkwardly standing there. What do I do? Do I celebrate? Do I kiss everyone? Do I cry? It was a really surreal moment," she said.

When she could finally celebrate, she briefly pretended to have a leg injury, a nod to those darker times and a chance to laugh at herself.

She's got a few more meets left in the season and then it's back to training and, for once, enjoying where she is in the sport. She hopes to use her medal to expand pole vaulting in Canada, and maybe even open an athletics facility.

"I want to do some more stuff in the sport, and this bronze medal is going to help. And I think my dreams are bigger than medals," she said.

Those black days in Tokyo seem a long time ago.

LOS ANGELES BEGINS PLANNING FOR 2028 OLYMPICS

From the City of Love to the City of Angels, planning for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics is well under way and organizers are paying close attention to what's worked, and what hasn't, so far in Paris.

It will be LA's third time hosting the Olympics and first time hosting the Paralympic Games.

Janet Evans remembers sitting in the stands at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum during the opening ceremony for the 1984 Summer Olympics as a 12-year-old.

Now, as chief athlete officer for LA2028, the organizing committee bringing the games to LA, she is focused on giving a voice to athletes and their concerns.

As for concerns specific to Los Angeles, top of mind for many is the gridlocked traffic on freeways and streets in the City of Dreams and Hollywood.

Evans said the plan is to work around some challenges by making deliveries for athletes late at night, work with companies to implement a more robust work-from-home plan for employees in the Southern California region.

The official hand-off to Los Angeles will take place on Sunday evening during the closing ceremony in Paris. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dolegala to start for Lions

With Adams injured last week, B.C. turns to a new quarterback for match against the Elks

DAN RALPH

Jake Dolegala will be tasked with ending the B.C. Lions losing ways. Dolegala gets the start Sunday when B.C. (5-3) visits the Edmonton Elks (1-7). He replaces veteran Vernon Adams Jr., who suffered a lower-body injury in last week's 25-0 loss to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

B.C. will look for its first win in three games and faces an Edmonton squad coming off a 42-31 victory over the Saskatchewan Roughriders in Canadian Tire Ford's first start of the season.

Dolegala had a 12-yard completion in three attempts against Winnipeg. But the 6-foot-7, 242-pound quarterback started nine-of-13 games he appeared in last season with Saskatchewan and was signed by B.C. as insurance in case of an injury to Adams.

Last week Rick Campbell, the Lions head coach/co-GM, said while Adams's injury isn't considered long-term, he'll be out week-to-week.

Dolegala, 27, completed 216-of-333 passes (64.9 per cent) for 2,641 yards with 11 TDs and nine interceptions last season. He also ran 26 times for 95 yards and a touchdown.

Edmonton returns home following its shootout win. Ford, the 2021 Hec Crighton Trophy winner at Waterloo, was a tidy 18-of-22 passing for 252 yards with two touchdowns and an interception while rushing five times for 46 yards in the contest.

Tevin Jones only had three catches for Edmonton, but two went for touchdowns as he finished with 123 yards.

Javon Leake, the CFL's top special-teams player last season, ran for 169 yards and three touchdowns on just 12 carries while adding three receptions for 26 yards.

Interestingly, Leake had rushed for 172 yards in his first 32 career league games.

B.C. suffered its first shutout loss since Oct. 23, 2021 and mustered just 102 net offensive yards and three first downs.

But Dolegala and Co. face an Edmonton defence that's tied for last in offensive points allowed (30.1 per game), is last in net offence (390.4 yards), offensive TDs (26) and second-down conversions (54.9 per cent) and second-last in passing yards (309.8).

Edmonton is tied for third in both sacks (17) and interceptions (eight). And linebacker Nyles Morgan had 11 tackles versus Saskatchewan to stand first overall with 56 on the season.

There's also the matter of trying to contain the athletic Ford, who's a dual threat with the ball in his hands.

B.C. has won the past eight matchups between the two teams, including a 24-21 decision in Vancouver on June 27. What's more, the Lions haven't lost three straight games since 2021.

Ford does have five TD passes over his last five quarters of play but is 0-2 versus B.C. **Pick:** B.C.

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS VERSUS OTTAWA REDBLACKS (THURSDAY NIGHT)

At Ottawa, the Redblacks (5-2) come off the bye week standing 4-0 at TD Place and having won three straight overall. Returner DeVonte Dedmon is also back in the home team's lineup. Saskatchewan (5-3) has lost two straight and will play on five days rest after losing Sunday to Edmonton. Veteran Trevor Harris

(knee) has resumed practising but Shea Patterson remains under centre but neither running back A.J. Ouellette (rib) nor line-backer Jameer Thurman (elbow) will play. **Pick:** Ottawa.

CALGARY STAMPEDERS VERSUS TORONTO ARGONAUTS (FRIDAY NIGHT)

At Toronto, Calgary (4-4) out-scored the Argos (4-4) 21-0 in the fourth quarter for a 27-23 home victory Sunday night. Its defence had six sacks, including two by Mike Rose but the Stamps are 0-4 on the road. Cam Dukes threw for a TD and ran for another for the visitors but is questionable with a leg injury. The loss tarnished stellar performances by safety Royce Metchie (nine tackles, interception, forced fumble) and line-backer Jonathan Jones (game-high 11 tackles, two for loss, special-teams tackle). **Pick:** Toronto.

HAMILTON TIGER-CATS VERSUS MONTREAL ALOUETTES (SATURDAY NIGHT)

At Montreal, the league-leading Alouettes (7-1) return home following last week's 33-16 victory at Tim Hortons Field. Davis Alexander is expected to make a second straight start for the defending Grey Cup champions but again the league's top defence (17.8 offensive points per game) will have his back. Hamilton (2-6) looks for a third win in four games boasting the CFL's top-ranked offence (318.5 passing yards, 378.1 net yards per game) but is 1-3 on the road and its defence is tied with Edmonton for most offensive points allowed. **Pick:** Montreal.

Last week: 1-3
CP's overall record: 18-18.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Marino, Auger-Aliassime bounced in National Bank Open openers

JOSHUA CLIPPERTON

Leylah Fernandez handled a curveball in advancing to the second round of the National Bank Open.

The Laval, Que., product defeated Japan's Nao Hibino 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 on Wednesday to move on at Canada's national tennis championship.

Fernandez, the tournament's 15th seed, was originally supposed to face China's Zhang Shuai, but the 63rd-ranked player on the WTA Tour withdrew because of a viral illness and was replaced by Hibino on short notice. Fernandez is ranked 25th in the world.

Vancouver's Rebecca Marino lost her first-round match 6-3, 6-4 to Poland's Magda Linette.

Marina Stakusic has advanced to the second round of the Open.

The 19-year-old from Mississauga came back to defeat Russia's Erika Andreeva 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4 on Wednesday in the Canadian's first main-draw appearance at her country's national tournament.

Next up for Stakusic, who entered the week ranked 160th in the world, is Taylor Townsend. The 71st-ranked American lost in qualifying, but earned a spot in the women's bracket as an injury replacement before first-round

opponent and No. 16 seed Dayana Yastremska retired in the second set with Townsend up 6-3, 3-1 on Tuesday.

Naomi Osaka of Japan beat another top player in her return from maternity leave, routing ninth-seeded Ons Jabeur of Tunisia 6-3, 6-1. Osaka will face Elise Mertens of Belgium in the second round. Mertens beat American Katie Volynets 6-3, 6-1.

Paul Badosa, a former second-ranked player making a comeback from a back injury, followed her Washington title Sunday with a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Denmark's Clara Tauson.

Defending champion Jessica Pegula of the U.S. is also set to play under the lights after getting a bye to the second round.

Bianca Andreescu, who also hails from Mississauga and became the first Canadian to win the event in 55 years back in 2019, was eliminated Tuesday night after losing her first-round match 0-6, 6-3, 6-4 to Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko.

Fans at IGA Stadium in Montreal gave Félix Auger-Aliassime a lengthy standing ovation before his opening singles match in the National Bank Open on Wednesday.

It's a good thing, because Auger-Aliassime, who finished fourth at the Paris Olympics and won bronze in mixed doubles

with Gabriela Dabrowski of Ottawa, was gone 68 minutes later.

Flavio Cobolli of Italy beat Auger-Aliassime 6-3, 6-2 a day before the Montreal tennis star's 25th birthday.

Another Canadian, Vasek Pospisil of Vernon, B.C., only lasted 19 minutes against American Sebastian Korda and was forced to retire trailing 2-1 owing to injury.

Canadian wild card Denis Shapovalov was also bounced in a first-round loss to American qualifier Brandon Nakashima.

Seeded Americans got off to a good start at the men's National Bank Open tennis tournament as Tommy Paul and Ben Shelton posted first-round wins Wednesday.

Paul, seeded 10th in Montreal, fired nine aces in a 6-4, 7-6 (2) win over Italy's Luciano Darderi.

He is playing in his first tournament since teaming with Taylor Fritz to win men's doubles bronze at the Paris Olympics.

Shelton, seeded 11th, came back from a break down in the first set to defeat Kazakhstan's Alexander Bublik 7-6 (4), 6-2 on Centre Court. He will next face Alexei Popyrin of Australia.

Nakashima defeated Shapovalov of Richmond Hill, Ont., 6-4, 7-5 in a match that took 1 hour 38 minutes to complete.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BIRTH AND DEATH NOTICES

TO PLACE AN AD CALL: 1-866-999-9237
EMAIL: ADVERTISING@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

DEATHS



SHEILA KUSSNER
O.C., O.Q., C.O.M.

It is with profound sadness that Sheila's loving family announces her sudden, though peaceful passing on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, close to her 92nd birthday. Beloved and devoted wife of the late Marvyn Kussner for 60 years. Adored and loving mother and mother-in-law of Janice, Joanne and John Leopold. Cherished and proud grandmother of Justin and Carolyn Leopold. Loving daughter of the late Jack and the late Sophie Golden. Predeceased by her dear brothers, Dr. Clifford Golden and Ronnie Golden. Sheila will be fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews.

A healthcare activist, fundraiser par excellence, philanthropist, consummate volunteer and pioneer in the field of cancer support, Sheila has profoundly shaped the development of cancer care in Montreal and beyond.

In 1981, she founded her beloved Hope & Cope, an innovative peer-based cancer support program affiliated with the Jewish General Hospital. Under her visionary leadership, Hope & Cope has grown into a nationally and internationally recognized non-profit that has attracted thousands of volunteers over the years.

For over four decades, Hope & Cope has been a beacon in community cancer support and a leader in providing compassionate, evidence-based care and support from the moment of diagnosis through all stages of cancer. With a focus primarily on living well with cancer, it has become a model for cancer centres in Canada and around the world.

An outstanding fundraiser, Sheila spearheaded the development of oncology as a separate discipline in the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University, raising \$30 million to establish the Department of Oncology. She also played a lead role in securing funding for the Jewish General Hospital's Palliative Care Unit and other Oncology-based programs.

In 2007, the Hope & Cope Wellness Centre was officially opened – the first hospital-affiliated free-standing cancer wellness center in Montreal. The Wellness Centre is a true oasis offering a multiplicity of programs free of charge that help cancer patients live well with and beyond their cancer.

Sheila was an early and passionate advocate for establishing a strong research core to Hope & Cope's programs. Recognizing that research and evidence must underpin cancer support activities, she helped establish the Christine and Herschel Victor – Hope & Cope Chair in Psychosocial Oncology – the first such research chair in Quebec.

As a result of her exceptional commitment to the welfare of cancer patients, Sheila earned numerous accolades and awards. She was an Officer of the Order of Canada, Officer of the Order of Quebec, and Commander of the Order of Montreal. She held honorary doctorates from McGill University and the University of Montreal. She was a Governor Emerita of McGill University and had been awarded multiple community service awards, including the Distinguished Service Award from the Jewish General Hospital, the Robert Fisher Fellowship Award (Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City), the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award (Association of Fundraising Professionals – Québec section).

While proud of the considerable funds she has raised for cancer care, Sheila found the greatest satisfaction and personal reward in the simple act of helping people from all walks of life – offering hope, empathy, practical help, a personal note, or a listening ear whenever needed. Sheila lived a life of meaning and purpose and will be deeply missed by her entire family, her many friends and all whose lives she has touched and inspired.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Gina, Nida, Tonee and Astrid for their outstanding care and devotion, and an added thank you to Levy. Special thanks and appreciation to Dr. Rubin Becker for his exceptional care and close friendship for many years.

Funeral Service from Paperman & Sons, 3888 Jean Talon St. W., on Friday, August 9th, at 1:00 p.m. Burial at the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim Cemetery, 1250 Chemin de la Forêt, Outremont. Shiva private at her home. Contributions in Sheila's memory may be made to Hope & Cope c/o Jewish General Hospital Foundation, (514) 340 8251, www.hopeandcope.ca. The offices of Hope & Cope and the Wellness Centre will be closed Friday, August 9, 2024.



FUNERAL SERVICES



SUSAN MILOJEVIC
SUSAN DAVIS
SUSAN MARIE KUPER

With deep sadness we said goodbye to our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, who chose to leave us last Friday, after a fall a month ago and an alarmingly rapid decline. She was predeceased by her husband, Srbojub Pavle of forty-seven years; daughter, Elizabeth; and son, William; and was adored by her son, Michael (Robin); grandsons, Michael (Kristen), Trenton (Ashley), Nicholas (Kelly) and Sacha (Jennie); and great-grandchildren, Nikia, Madison, Jesse, Annabelle, Lucas, Margot, and Robert. Her sister, Leila, and many Langman, Ross and Cridland nephews and nieces survive her. The Milojevic family in Toronto, Kragujevac and Chicago were especially dear to her. Following a long career in medical research, Susan refocused on guiding at the AGO, a wonderful writing group, TSO and COC series, her garden and cottage and, to the benefit of many, the exercise of her formidable culinary skills in the tiniest of kitchens. Broad interests, knowledge and creativity led her to offer guidance and opinions easily. We honour her determination to offer us all a place to which to return and reconnect even when she struggled to stay upright. Her interment in section 16 Prospect Cemetery, near her childhood home, will be this Friday at 2:30 p.m., followed by a gathering at her home of 65 years.



Benjamin's
Park
Memorial
Chapel



Through the generations...
a sacred trust

WEDNESDAY

GOULD, Beatrice - 10:30 Chapel.
SWEET, Edward - 1:00 Pardes Chaim Cemetery.
STANLEY, Stuart - 2:00 Mount Sinai Memorial Park.

THURSDAY

BERGER, Gail - 10:30 Chapel.
NASH, Harvey - 1:00 Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

FRIDAY

COVANT, Benji - 10:15 Chapel.

SUNDAY

ROBINS, Gloria - 10:30 Beth Tzedec Memorial Park.

SHIVA

PELT, Melvyn - 2 Neptune Drive.
EIDINGER, Shirley - 700 Lytton Blvd.
VIGODA, Deborah - 377 Dunfield Avenue.
SHEMUEL, David - 132 Croteau Crescent, Thornhill, Ontario.
GOULD, Beatrice - 4 Luverne Avenue.
SWEET, Edward - 381 Bayview Avenue, #91, North York, Ontario.
STANLEY, Stuart - 314 Warren Road.
BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
YAD VASHEM AT LANDMARK
3429 Bathurst St. (416) 780-0635

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION



TRADITIONAL SERVICE
Bathurst Street 416-780-0596

[BLUE JAYS VS. ORIOLES]



A foot short

Toronto's Ernie Clement is tagged out at second base during Wednesday night's game in Toronto.

Blue Jays lost 7-3.

Read the game story at ■ GLOBESPORTS.COM

NICK TURCHIARO/REUTERS

CLASSIFIED

TO PLACE AN AD: 1-866-999-9237
ADVERTISING@GLOBEANDMAIL.COM

MERCHANDISE

WANTED TO BUY

I MAKE HOUSE CALLS!

I BUY:
Estates, Antiques,
Silver Plate & Sterling,
Gold & Costume Jewelry,
Watches, Coins, Stamps,
and World Paper Money

WANTED:

Diamonds, Rolex, Cartier, Faberge,
Tiffany, Georg Jensen, etc.

Call Bob 416-605-1640

JOE HENRY ENGLE

ASTRONAUT, 91

GROUNDBREAKING PILOT FLEW TO THE EDGE OF SPACE AND BEYOND TWICE

His application to join a group of astronauts was pulled by an Air Force officer who assigned him to the X-15 program which handled experimental aircrafts

RICHARD SANDOMIR

Joe Engle, the first person to venture to the edge of space and beyond in two different winged aircraft – the hypersonic, rocket-powered X-15 as an Air Force test pilot and the space shuttle as a NASA astronaut – died July 10 at his home in Houston. He was 91.

His death was confirmed by his wife, Jeanie Engle.

Mr. Engle was an Air Force captain in 1962 when he was accepted into the Aerospace Research Pilot School, an advanced training ground for astronauts. It was run by Chuck Yeager, the renowned test pilot who had broken the sound barrier in a Bell Aircraft X-1 in 1947.

But Mr. Engle's application to join a group of astronaut recruits was pulled by an Air Force officer, who told him that he was being selected for another role; he had to wait until school ended in 1963 to learn that he had been assigned to the X-15 program.

The reassignment "thrilled me to death," he said in a 2004 NASA oral history interview, "because it was a chance to get into place, to fly into space and to do it with a winged airplane, with a stick and rudder." And he was still young enough to reapply to NASA in the future.

Three experimental X-15 aircraft were flown 199 times by a dozen pilots from 1959 to 1968, each designed to reach the boundary of space, more than 80 kilometres above sea level, travelling at speeds of up to 7,274 kilometres an hour. They collected critical data on the effects of hypersonic aerodynamics on men and machines.

Mr. Engle was the last surviving X-15 pilot.

In 1963, during the first of his 16 X-15 missions, the aircraft's electrical system malfunctioned, knocking out nearly all the instruments. But Engle adjusted, took control and glided the plane to a safe landing.

"Like anything else, if you're ready for it, it's fun," he said in the oral history. "You're looking forward to the next failure."

He earned his astronaut wings on June 29, 1965, when he took the X-15 to an altitude of 280,600 feet, or 85 kilometres, at 5,521 km/h.

That September, 10,000 people gathered in his hometown, Chapman, Kan., to celebrate his achievement with a three-kilometre-long parade with 65 floats.



Astronaut Joe Henry Engle, posing in front of the X-15 research rocket in December, 1965, wanted to fly from a young age and would simulate piloting using an orange crate. SMITH COLLECTION/GADO/GETTY IMAGES

During a program in his honour that day, he described part of the experience of flying the X-15.

"If you lie down and let someone put a water-soaked bale of hay on your head and try to lift it," he said, "that's the feeling you have when gravity is pulling."

He was soon chosen for the Apollo program with 18 other new astronauts. But to his disappointment, he would never fly to the moon.

Joe Henry Engle was born on Aug. 26, 1932, in Abilene, Kan., to Albert and Margaret (Beaver) Engle. He grew up in nearby Chapman. His father ran a farm and taught agriculture courses in a high school. His mother was a

schoolteacher before her marriage.

Mr. Engle wanted to fly from a young age; in second grade, he would sit in an orange crate and pretend it was an airplane. He vowed that he would one day travel to outer space.

He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1955 with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering. He received an Air Force commission through the school's Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps, then flew in fighter pilot squadrons at George Air Force Base in Victorville, Calif., from 1957 to 1961. He attended test pilot school under Yeager at Edwards Air Force Base in California, then spent three years in

the X-15 program.

In the Apollo program, he simulated the conditions of space flight when he was sealed for eight days in a chamber inside the command and lunar modules with his fellow astronauts Vance Brand and Joseph Kerwin.

He was part of the support crew for Apollo 10 in May, 1969, two months before the first moon landing by Apollo 11. He went on to train as the backup lunar module pilot for Apollo 14 in 1971 and was assigned to the crew of Apollo 17 in December, 1972.

Mr. Engle had expected to walk on the moon with Eugene Cernan in Apollo 17. But he was

replaced by Harrison Schmitt, a geologist-astronaut (and future U.S. senator from New Mexico), so that NASA could take a scientist into space.

Mr. Schmitt had been scheduled to fly on Apollo 18, but that mission was cancelled because of budget cuts.

"It's a lot like when you lose someone very dear to you to something like cancer," Mr. Engle said in a news conference in August, 1971, about being replaced. He added, "It's a pretty empty feeling."

Years later, though, his perspective had become more pragmatic.

"When you think about it," he told The New York Times, "the lunar missions were geology-oriented."

In 1981, Mr. Engle, by then an Air Force colonel, went back to space as commander of the second flight of the shuttle Columbia with pilot Richard Truly. They demonstrated that Columbia could be reused, but they had to return three days early because of a fuel cell failure. (Truly died in February.)

Four years later, Mr. Engle was the commander of the shuttle Discovery, which deployed three communications satellites and fixed an existing one.

He retired from the Air Force in 1986 and was promoted to major general, having flown more than 180 types of aircraft and logged more than 14,000 flight hours.

He subsequently worked as an assistant to the commander in chief of the U.S. Space Command in Colorado Springs and a consultant to the NASA Johnson Space Center.

In addition to his wife, who was Jeanie Carter when they married, Mr. Engle leaves a daughter, Laurie Rasty; a son, Jon, from his marriage to Mary Lawrence, which ended with her death in 2004; two grandchildren; and a stepdaughter, Katharine Carter Garczynski.

Mr. Engle said that when he was flying the X-15 he was too busy to sightsee. But he didn't completely ignore the view.

"You could glance out and see the blackness of space above and the extremely bright Earth below," he told NASA in 2009. "The horizon had the same bands of colour you see from the shuttle, with black on top, then purple to deep indigo, then blues and whites."

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

BILLY BEAN

ATHLETE, 60

American team baseball player was among the first to come out as gay

NEW YORK

Billy Bean, one of the first athletes in American team sports to come out as gay, died Tuesday, 11 months after being diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. He was 60.

An outfielder and first baseman who played in parts of six MLB seasons, Mr. Bean most recently served as the league's senior vice-president of diversity, equity and inclusion and as special assistant to the commissioner. He also served on the MLB owners' DE&I Committee.

"Our hearts are broken today as we mourn our dear friend and colleague, Billy Bean, one of the kindest and most respected individuals I have ever known," MLB commissioner Rob Manfred said in a statement. "Billy was a friend to countless people across our game, and he made a difference through his constant dedication to others. He made baseball a better institution, both on and off the field, by the power of his example, his empathy, his communication skills, his deep relationships inside



Former Los Angeles Dodgers player Billy Bean is recognized before a game at Dodger Stadium on Pride Night in June, 2023, in Los Angeles. MEG OLIPHANT/GETTY IMAGES

and outside our sport, and his commitment to doing the right thing.

"We are forever grateful for the enduring impact that Billy made on the game he loved, and we will never forget him. On behalf of Major League Baseball, I extend my deepest condolences to Billy's husband, Greg Baker, and their entire family."

Mr. Bean worked for the Office of the Commissioner since 2014, when then-commissioner Bud Selig hired him as the league's first-ever ambassador for inclusion.

Mr. Bean came out as gay to his parents in 1996, a year after his final game in the major leagues. He came out publicly in 1999 in an interview with the Miami Herald.

He was the second MLB player to publicly come out, following outfielder Glenn Burke, who came out in 1982 after a short playing career in the 1970s.

Mr. Bean batted .226 with five home runs and 53 RBIs in 272 career games for the Detroit Tigers (1987-89), Los Angeles Dodgers (1989) and San Diego Padres (1993-95).

REUTERS