

# the *Link*

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

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**John Q. Student**

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🏠 Lives in Vancouver British Columbia



# The Link

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## ABOUT THE LINK

The Link is the student newspaper of the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Published bi-weekly by the BCIT Student Association (BCITSA), The Link circulates 3,000 copies to over 45,000 students, faculty, and staff.

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# Sustainable Business Leadership program begins at BCIT

BCIT's program focusing on sustainable business practices is off to a strong start

**SARAH MASSAH**  
Editor

BCIT is updating its curriculum to satisfy an interest in environmental sustainability in the business community.

The School of Business has teamed up with the School of Construction and Environment to create a new sustainable business leadership program after seeing a need for the program four years, according to Anne Marie Webb-Hughes, an instructor at BCIT and the vice chair of the BCIT's Green Team Executive.

"With medium to large businesses, 85 per cent have sustainability and corporate responsibility as a part of their portfolios," said Hughes. "There is such a need right now and by the time our students graduate, that number is going to be higher. We are fill-

ing a need for jobs."

Hughes and Dr. Mark Giltrow, who is designated head of the program, worked together to get the right people for the job. They recruited people in the industry who would be proved to be connections for the students.

Although the new program is only in its first week, students in the program are giving it rave reviews.

"It's very busy and we're going to have a lot of work ahead of us, but it's a good mix of students and a great team," said Peter Cox, who signed up for the program to get more hands-on and practical experience. This has proven to be a significant draw for students who want to create a portfolio.

"There are a lot of courses that deal with it in more theoretical sense but with this course and the projects, there is an opportunity to do something with a company. It's not just pie-in-the-sky or daydreaming," said Cox, who plans to take his major project and make a career in the field.

For Daniel Pellizzari, the decision was more impulsive. The student, who is also a part of the Leaders of Tomorrow mentorship program with the Vancouver Board of Trade, saw the program as a transition to the Bachelor of Business Administration program.

*"I needed a little bit of a leg up and I get to help the city along the way."*

- Daniel Pellizzari,  
Sustainable Business  
Leadership student

"I thought it was the right thing to do, I needed a little bit of a leg up and I get to help the city along the way," said Pellizzari. "The teachers themselves are very knowledgeable and connected. There are six teachers to 15 students, so it's a good ratio."

Both students are actively working with companies on

their project which implements sustainability practices in a business.

For those who scoff at the mention on sustainability in the business world, Hughes claims it is more than just recycling.

"People think it is all green and tree-huggers, but being sustainable can also mean being in human resources and finding ways to keep staff. It is finding out how to keep staff motivated so at the end of the day, you save money," said Hughes.

The program, which will be offered as a joint credential between the two schools, will focus on teaching students how promote sustainable methods in a business environment.

It is a full time program offered on weekends, evenings, or through distance and online learning. The program lasts a total of 27 weeks from September to March. The courses are transferable and are a gateway to BCIT's Bachelor of Business Administration program.

# ATTENTION WRITERS!

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# U-Pass receives mixed reception at BCIT

While many students are pleased with the discounted transit pass, others remain unimpressed

**CHAD KLASSEN**

Assistant Editor

While the new U-Pass BC program has been received with great fanfare from much of the BCIT community, some are outraged about being forced to pay for what they believe is useless.

While 85 per cent of students voted in favor of the transit pass last January, the remaining 15 per cent, strongly against the U-Pass, feel ripped off having to pay the extra \$30 a month.

"It's one of those things where you can't please everyone all the time," says BCIT Student Association President Nicola Gardner. "It's definitely been an interesting experience because it's a program that doesn't fit everyone ... but at the end of the day it's a positive program."

Gardner says she's witnessed the entire spectrum of students including full-time students who are enjoying the pass, those who are not happy with the extra cost, and part-time students who are upset they weren't included in the program.

Second-year broadcast journalism student Rafferty Baker, an avid biker, is relieved to have the U-Pass back in his possession.

*"It's one of those things where you can't please everyone all the time."*

- Nicola Gardner,  
BCIT Student Association  
president

"When I was at UBC, I loved the U-Pass, but last year when I arrived to BCIT I was actually a little bit choked they didn't have

one," says Baker. "Even though I ride my bike pretty much every day, it's great for getting around town and it's very affordable."

According to Translink spokesperson Ken Hardie, most students around the Lower Mainland are happy having the U-Pass, and the company is increase in transit used as a result.

Hardie says he has seen a spike in users with the new program, which now at 11 different post-secondary institutes across B.C.

"When the new schools come on, the students get their hands on a U-Pass and it's an inducement to use it and some of them start using it," he notes. "That was certainly our experience with UBC, SFU, Langara and [Capilano University]." Many students are much less enthusiastic about the pass.

Carmen Weld, another student in the broadcast program, is upset because those enrolled in her program have

no other choice but to drive.

"[My program] requires that we have a car; so we have to pay for insurance, we have to pay for parking, and now they're saying we have to pay for a pass that I'm never going to use," says Weld, adding that she did not use public transit during her five years at SFU, where the U-Pass program has been in place since 2003.

*"It's great for getting around town and it's very affordable."*

- Rafferty Baker,  
BCIT student

Weld's classmate Michael Popove echoed her sentiments, but is more optimistic about the bigger picture and hopes the program will encourage transit expansion to other areas of the lower

mainland.

"If it helps the transportation hub around the Lower Mainland become more efficient for the economy, great. That's what I take out of having to pay for it," he says.

That is what Translink is hoping as well, according to Hardie.

Feedback could be the difference in forcing change when the program expires in two years, according to the BCIT Student Association.

"What I like to remind people is that we're only in a two year contract," Gardner says. "We're already re-negotiating, so if I have every apprenticeship student coming here filling out one of these forms, then I can go to Translink and say, 'Look, can we just exclude the small pocket of students. We still have 10,000 other students.'"

The BCIT Student Association has made a complaint form available at its General Office for those who wish to voice their concerns.

## Average Canadian tuition rose by eight per cent in two years: StatsCan

Tuition fees continue to raise across Canada, international students fees still highest

**TANNARA YELLAND**

Canadian University Press

SASKATOON (CUP) — As universities try to balance their budgets in the face of a sluggish economy, Canadian postsecondary students have seen their tuition go up by eight per cent in the last two years.

A four per cent increase for the 2010-11 year was followed by another 4.3 per cent hike this year, according to recent Statistics Canada study.

The Canadian average for undergraduate tuition is now \$5,366. Ontario stu-

dents, who pay \$6,640 on average, pay the highest tuition in the country while Quebec undergrads enjoy the lowest tuition in the nation, paying an average of \$2,519. Students in Newfoundland and Labrador, where tuition fees have been frozen since 2003-04, are paying an average of \$2,649.

In Alberta, tuition is nominally capped to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), meaning it increased by about two per cent for the 2011-12 year. Average fees for full-time undergrads in that province sit at \$5,662.

"However, that number is misleading," said University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President-External Farid Iskandar. "Alberta has the highest mandatory

non-instructional fees levied on students in the country: they're \$1,399."

*"Compulsory non-tuition fees went up for undergraduates by 21.5 per cent over last year."*

While Alberta has the highest non-tuition fees, students in New Brunswick will have the largest increase over last year's non-instructional fees for both graduates and undergraduates. Compulsory non-tuition fees went up for undergraduates by 21.5 per cent over

last year, rising to \$430. For graduate students, non-instructional fees went up by 17.6 per cent.

The national average for compulsory fees went up 5.5 per cent for undergrads. Graduate students in Nova Scotia were the only students in the nation to see a decline in compulsory fees; they went down by 7.5 per cent.

While Canadian undergrads are paying more each year, they are still significantly better off than either their international student counterparts or graduate students. International students, who represent a rapidly growing portion of the student population, pay an average of \$17,571 in tuition — up 9.5 per cent from two years ago.

### Canadian tuition by the numbers

**4.3%**

national average tuition increase in 2011

**\$5,366**

national average undergrad tuition

**\$17,571**

average international student tuition



# Direct-to-consumer drug ads are a danger to the public



*This is not a bowl of candy.*

Paul Wilson

Self-diagnosing consumers are hurting themselves in the long-term

**DAVE SWANSON**  
Culture Editor

In 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration modified the regulations of direct-to-consumer advertising (DTCA) of prescription drugs, allowing pharmaceutical companies to advertise on TV, radio, in magazines, and online.

In Canada, DTCA is illegal, but because Canadians are exposed to so much American media, we still see many pharmaceutical advertisements in our daily lives.

It is believed that DTCA has had a negative effect on public welfare because it encourages individuals to seek medical treatment for everyday experiences that they feel to be a burden. This ultimately

transforms normal difficulties into disorders that need drugs to correct.

In 1997, Roche, a pharmaceutical company, stated that over one million Australians suffer from a disorder called social phobia, which they described as a “soul destroying condition.”

*“Most of the so-called sufferers were actually experiencing nothing more than extreme shyness.”*

In reality, the actual number of sufferers was closer to 300,000 but Roche continued its unfounded claims and later announced that the number of sufferers was around two million.

To combat this, they recommended that people take

their antidepressant Aurorix. In reality, the most of the so-called sufferers were actually experiencing nothing more than extreme shyness.

By allowing pharmaceutical companies to advertise directly, people are being taught to disregard self-coping strategies or alternative medicine.

Instead, DTCA angles people’s focus inward, and because DTCA is successful in “medicalizing” many normal psychological and physical states, it perpetuates a form of hyper-sensitive self-analysis which has shown to lower one’s self-esteem and distract people from more significant events in their environment.

Finally, because much of DTCA does not provide sufficient information about alternative treatments or side-effects, the drugs consumed may actually not be the best means for alleviating genuine health concerns.

In fact, branded prescrip-

tion drugs may cause negative physical, mental, or emotional side effects that can result in people taking a larger quantity and sample of drugs.

Of course, treating side effects of one drug with another, or taking a drug that is not the most effective and time efficient means to reach health and creates an unnecessary strain on the health care system.

*“In 2009, global investments in DTCA were roughly \$4.5 billion.”*

In 2009, global investments in DTCA were roughly \$4.5 billion which helped produce global revenues from prescriptions drugs close to \$808 billion.

This means the relatively small investment pharmaceutical companies are allocating for DTCA are resulting in enormous profit margins which have been generated at the expense of the public well-being.

DTCA impedes our quality of life and contributes to the oppression of millions of people in exchange for physical and psychological freedom that has yet to be realized by the majority of consumers.

If supporters of DTCA truly believe it has positive social benefits, it is their responsibility to produce evidence supporting this stance. If this evidence cannot be produced, as I believe to be the case, we must openly recognize the clinical and economic pitfalls of DTCA and implement strict regulations to alleviate the social detriment that has spawned from pharmaceutical advertisements.

**Write for *The Link* and make sure  
we never have to waste paper space like this again.**

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# Mandatory U-Pass unfair to many students

The U-Pass contradicts program requirements for many students and should be optional

**ANITA STHANKIYA**  
Link Contributor

There's been a lot of talk about the U-Pass coming to BCIT since the vote passed in January. The BCIT Student Association fought long and hard to get the pass at our school and I applaud them for their efforts.

However, that applaud is turning into a slow clap as I realize the U-Pass is mandatory for all full-time students, forcing non-transit commuters to pay \$30 each month, for nine months.

Whether you use transit or not — including students who live on campus as well as those who are required to drive to school — it comes out of your pocket.

As a student in the Broadcast Journalism program, we're required to have full access to a car, just as students in other programs might be required to buy certain textbooks, for example.

I have to pay for my car insurance, gas, and school parking and now I'm forced to pay for a transit pass that I will



*The controversial pass lies discarded.*

Sandeep Singh

never use? Sure, you may think that it's only an extra \$30 a month, just \$270 a school year, but in my broke world that's a lot for something that isn't even going to be used.

*I demand a reduction in parking fees if I am required to pay for the U-Pass.*

I've done the math. I pay \$90 a month for parking at

BCIT, translating to \$810 a year. I pay \$80 a month for gas, \$720 a school year, and over \$900 per school year in car insurance.

Between parking, gas, and car insurance, having a car costs me over \$2,000 per school year.

That's more than the average student pays for textbooks — a lot more, in fact. The \$270 I am forced to pay for the U-Pass could be going towards insurance and gas.

The U-Pass is brilliant for those who use it, need it, want it. But enforcing a mandatory

fee on an already inflated tuition cost is ridiculous.

I have heard the excuse that if it wasn't mandatory, Translink would lose money.

The argument that Translink would lose money over an optional U-Pass, in my opinion, is a load of shit. Only 15 per cent of voters in the U-Pass referendum opposed the U-Pass. That's a small number, no way near the numbers that could possibly affect a deficit for the transit company if these people actually take the time to opt out.

If you haven't already fig-

ured out, I feel strongly against the mandatory program and demand a reduction in parking fees if I am required to pay for the U-Pass. Over \$800 a year to park, with no incentive to buy weeks in advance? Are you kidding me?

In summary, while the U-Pass program benefits many BCIT students, it is in direct opposition to many others' program requirements and should therefore be optional. Otherwise, the real socially irresponsible people are those who are forcing the program on people who don't want nor need it.

## CAMPUS QUERY

### Do you think it is okay to buy or sell your U-Pass?



**HEIDI POSADAS**  
Nursing

I am kind of 50/50 on it. I can see why people are doing because it they are not going to use it but they are paying for it anyway, they may as well get their money from it.



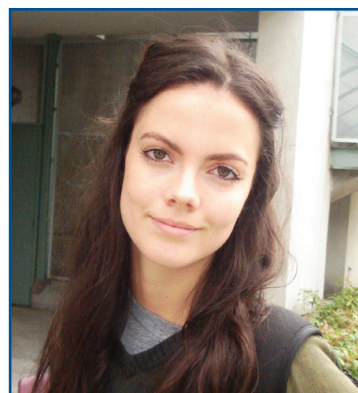
**KEVIN MCCULLOM**  
Financial Management

I think it is ok to sell it because we paid for it and we can do what we want with our property.



**JUSTIN KOKA**  
Network Systems Technology

I think you should be able to sell it because you are paying \$30 a month for it. It should be your property and you should be able to do what you want with it.



**RACHEL HODGSON**  
Nursing

If I didn't use it, I would probably do it too.



**ELIZABETH WILLOCK**  
Nursing

We all have to pay for it for it to work. It is a brilliant system. It is really nice for those of us to use it. If people want to sell it than that's what they have to do.





# Will your social media presence affect future job opportunities?



Written by Hafsa Mulla  
@Ryerson University

Social media is being used by recruiters screen job applications, what does your web presence say about you?

TORONTO (CUP) — Most job applicants have a standard checklist before a job interview: Prim business attire, luminously thorough resume and a stellar combination of zest and intelligence.

However, if tweaking your Facebook profile for a potential faux pas hasn't made the cut, maybe it should.

While you settle comfortably into the digital age, it's safe to say that your online presence has now become a virtual imprint that shadows you to an interview. It is your subliminal curriculum vitae.

As online social networking grows increasingly pervasive, many employers are utilizing these websites to screen potential job seekers. So, if your status update reveals you had a solid Saturday night coupled with gory comments, it could be potential grounds for your rejection letter.

According to a study conducted by Harris Interactive for CareerBuilder.com, 45 per cent of employers use leading social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to screen job candidates. The study also found that 35 per cent of employers disregarded candidates based on racy content uncovered on leading social networking sites.

"While resumes and interviews do give you a bit of an insight to a person, they can also be a façade," said ANOKHI Magazine Fashion Editor Jacqueline Parrish. "People's unguarded social media profiles, however, provide you with a raw look at the job seeker as people rarely censor their social media sites. Their profiles tend to be a direct reflection of them."

Provocative photos and references to drinking and drug use are the key contributing factors in the hiring process after online-screening. However, many of us are oblivious to the fact that poor online communication skills are also a stumbling block.

A hyper-articulate Twitter timeline can polish one's virtual persona, and in the same light, it can cause damage through inappropriate Twitter feeds.

"A quick Google search of a candidate — whom I had pegged as a potential intern — revealed tweets that looked 'lyk ths' via Twitter," said Parrish. "Suffice to say, I wasn't impressed and decided to disqualify her."

This is another rationale for dismissal: The discrepancies that ap-





pear between qualifications posted online and the candidate's actual resume. A virtual fib is more than just a social blunder; it is impermissible.

While most of these issues are primary hindrances that keep us from landing our dream job, what many of us need to realize is that these drawbacks are easily avoidable.

Tweak your privacy settings with just a scroll and a click and tailor them according to what is considered tasteful.

**“45 per cent of employers use leading social media outlets to screen job candidates.”**

“If you know that there is inappropriate content that could potentially harm your chances of employment, change your privacy settings and searchability,” said Parrish. “These options are provided for a reason.”

In contrast, you can leverage the social media explosion to your advantage. Why not treat these outlets as self-selling-tools to project a positive image to your prospective employers that will encourage them to hire you?

Facebook allows you to advertise your professional qualifications and personal interests, a feature that can help convey a dynamic image. Create a field-centric group that can help you establish relationships with recruiters, leaders and so forth. Be selective about accepting friends and frequently scan comments made by others. Set a default picture in good taste and police your profile. It is after all, a branding power of sorts.

Twitter allows you to follow anyone under the sun. Why not follow inspirational leaders and the head honchos in your field? Concoct your tweets in a profound manner that generate targeted following while

documenting refined and thought-provoking ideas.

LinkedIn is specifically tailored for job seekers, companies and recruiters.

“Keep it reserved and utilize it as a tool for employment,” said Parrish, “and don’t forget to be honest, there’s no need to overstate your qualifications.”

And lastly, check the gist of your online reputation and discover what a simple Google search reveals about you.

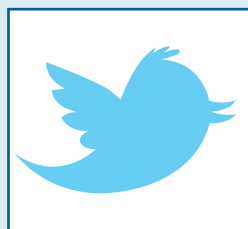
We live in a digital age that has made information easily accessible. With a simple click of a button an individual’s social life can be completely exposed, for better or worse. The unfortunate truth for every job seeker is that it doesn’t just boil down to conventional tactics anymore — i.e. sugar coating your résumé and putting your best foot forward.

After all, there are thousands of applicants competing for a single coveted position and your employer is merely testing the waters to see if you are able to represent the company in a dignified manner.

**“Keep it reserved and utilize it as a tool for employment.”**

You’re effectively left with an unavoidable choice between two alternatives — to eliminate your digital faux pas entirely or create your professional image via various networking sites.

But one thing is for sure: Technological and social networking advancements offering up-to-the-minute information are fast growing, leading to increased concerns about privacy issues. Your job, as an applicant, is to ensure you sweep those digital dust bunnies to the best of your ability.



## Social media tips for job hunters

By @BCIT\_Link staff

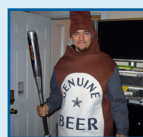
Social media websites can help you find a job so long as you are projecting your best qualities. Make sure you take steps to avoid exposing anything that might make a potential employer thing twice about hiring you.

See below for some quick tips on what to do and what to avoid when seeking a job!



### @EvanEmployed

Use career-focused sites like LinkedIn to connect to classmates, co-workers, and recruiters.



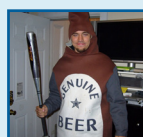
### @JohnnyJobless

Trash-talk old employers and complain about work. Nobody will ever know, brah!



### @EvanEmployed

Choose your words wisely. Avoid talking about work and never complain about your employer.



### @JohnnyJobless

Post pictures of yourself drinking and taking drugs so everyone will know what a badass you are.



### @EvanEmployed

Google your name and see what comes up before you apply for jobs.



### @JohnnyJobless

Leave your privacy settings on low so all your friends can find you online. Don’t worry about anyone else.



### @EvanEmployed

Check how much of your social media pages like Twitter and Facebook viewable without your consent.



### @JohnnyJobless

Ignore this article! What do they know, anyway?



## HEALTHY EATS

## GRANOLA

SARAH MASSAH  
Editor

New students will soon realize going to BCIT does not leave a lot of extra time for eating, never mind eating healthy. Having a full course load does not leave a lot of time to pack a nutritious lunch that is filling, so many resort to the fat-laden goodies at Tim Horton's or Professor Mugs.

While it's always fun to splurge on junk food, it's not the best for a student's body. I've collected recipes for food that I make that I can eat on the go that are healthy and fairly inexpensive.

## INGREDIENTS

- 3 cup rolled oats
- 1/4 cup slivered almonds (raw)
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/3 cup apple juice
- 2 tbsp honey
- 1 tbsp canola oil
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/3 cup unsweetened banana chips
- 1/3 cup raisins

## PREPARATION

1) Preheat your oven to 300 degrees. While it's heating up, combine your oats, almonds and cinnamon in a large bowl. Set aside.

2) In a small saucepan, combine the apple juice, honey and canola oil. Cook the mixture over medium heat until the honey is just dissolved. Then add the vanilla and salt to it.

3) Take the wet ingredients (the apple juice mixture) and slowly pour it in with the oats. Mix them until combined the oats are all covered.

4) Take a large baking sheet, spray with cooking spray and spread the oats evenly on it. Bake the granola for 15 minutes.

Stir the oats, make sure they are not burning, and then bake for another five to 10 minutes, until they are golden brown.

5) Take the dried fruit and add it into the oat mixture. Let the granola cool completely before storing it in an airtight container. It can be stored for a week to 10 days.

This recipe makes about four cups worth of granola and depending on what kind of fruit for a serving of 1/3 of a cup; it is only 141 calories, with about 45 calories from fat.

This whole process takes about half an hour at the most to get ready and it will last for over a week. What's really a bonus is how easy it is to pack and eat on the go.

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# Sleep-deprived songwriting with Wax Mannequin

Hamilton-based singer/songwriter Chris Adeney finds inspiration on the road

**DYLAN WILKS**  
Camosun College

VICTORIA (CUP) — The best way Hamilton-based indie singer/songwriter Chris Adeney can capture the strange stories of his tours as Wax Mannequin may be through sleep deprivation.

"Sleep is really sporadic," he says from on the road. "I've reached the hallucinatory stage of the tour. I find it hard napping when there are big weird people sitting next to me."

Adeney is taking Greyhound buses for part of his current tour in support of Hear Some Evil, an EP written and performed with Canadian indie band The Burning Hell. Adeney says the bus is actually a great opportunity for him to delve into his stories of being on the road before he forgets them.

"My memory is a bit spotty so I want to get a lot of

these stories written down," he says. "It's been a very productive project so far, and at the very least it's given me a jumpstart to my songwriting as well. What I'm lacking in sleep I'm making up for in lucid-delusional rambling writing."

Time spent alone also allows Adeney to reflect on towns he visits and the stories surrounding them. He feels that whenever he returns to a town, he's continuing a life that he's spread out through a number of years.

*"What I'm lacking in sleep I'm making up for in lucid-delusional rambling writing,"*

— Chris Adeney,  
singer/songwriter

"I revisit people that I've met and fallen in love with," he says. "Other musicians and friends of mine, we kind of pick up where we've left off like no time has passed."

But the biggest challenge for Adeney on this

tour isn't the lack of sleep or a spotty memory — it's spending such a prolonged amount of time away from his 10-month-old son.

"I'm having a great time at the shows and with the people but it's emotionally taxing being away from my little guy for so long," says Adeney. "I Skype; I see him on the Internet every day and he's learning new stuff and changing while I'm not there, so I feel I'm missing a bit of it."

Despite the emotional taxation, Adeney is glad to be out on the road with his music and is excited about his life as a father. Wax Mannequin has come a long way since back in his younger years, when Adeney toured across Canada in a 1991 Honda Civic with a wooden window.

"I had to smash it right before a gig to get my drum machine out," says Adeney. "I had locked it inside with my keys. I constructed a wooden window the next day and drove home with it. It was a terrible blind spot but it stopped the winter cold from freezing me all the way home."



Chris Adeney, better known as Wax Mannequin.

Photo courtesy of Chris Adeney

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



## THE PRISONERS

Photo courtesy of Matthew Van Deventer

**SARAH MASSAH**  
Editor

Despite having a member of the band in my program at BCIT, I still have not able to check out the Prisoners live in. However, after hearing their EP *This Is All of the Time* this week I have come to the realization that it was my loss. Big time.

The album is a mix of strong hooks, melodic verses, clap-your-hands beats and is punctuated with haunting keyboards, aggressive riffs and uplifting harmonies. Once I started playing it, I couldn't stop.

The vocals on the opener of the EP, "Do the Wrong Thing" reminds me of The National's Matt Berninger. Moving on to "Stone Mover," the sound is much more uplifting and poppy. Not one song sounds the same, but all have a distinct sound, which bassist Mitch Pollock credits to keyboard player Wes Regan.

"It's his signature keys sound that links many of our songs. It's a completely unique sound found by using three or four different pieces of gear," said Pollock, a second-year broadcast journalism student at BCIT.

"I'm very proud of the record. Tim's voice has such

a haunting resonance to it," the band told *The Link*, "He's an incredibly prolific song writer and is never short on good ideas and hooks."

The four members, who have known each other since attending high school in Kelowna, have come together to make a solid indie-rock debut that has deservedly garnered praise and recognition. Although Pollock was hesitant to name musical influences, he did mention bands like the Cure, Neil Young, The Sea and Cake, and Shellac.

"I feel naming your influences can be misleading. It gives people an expectation of what we sound like," said Pollock. "I'd like to think we sound unlike any band I've heard."

In their short two years together, the Prisoners have played all over Vancouver including three headlining shows at The Biltmore. However, the band is at a crucial stage right now in their careers.

"We're at the stage right now that many bands get to where you've maxed out at the level of [being] a local Vancouver band," said Pollock. "It's a bit of a waiting game to see who listens to our album and who sees our show."

## THE PRISONERS

Tim Gunderson - Vocals, guitar  
Neil Corbett - Vocals, drums  
Mitch Pollock - Bass, backing vocals  
Wes Regan - Keys

Online at [prisoners.bandcamp.ca](http://prisoners.bandcamp.ca) and @PrisonersRock



# Stadium facelift sure to stun Vancouver



BC Place has quickly become a standard figure of the Vancouver skyline.

Photo courtesy of bcplacestadium.com

The newly renovated BC Place is set to dazzle sports fans with two big events to mark the grand opening

## CHAD KLASSEN

Assistant Editor

You can see it from practically anywhere in the downtown core and soon the new BC Place will re-open to mark the beginning of a great fall season on the Vancouver sports scene.

It all kicks off September 30th with the ceremonial opening of the stadium when the Lions welcome the Edmonton Eskimos.

Two nights later, soccer returns to the dome with the Vancouver Whitecaps making their Major League Soccer debut October 2nd against their Northwest rivals, the Portland Timbers.

The amazing part of the grand opening is that Vancouverites who haven't caught a sporting event in decades are suddenly scooping up tickets, anticipating a magical night when the roof is opened for the Leos and Caps — that is, if the rain holds off.

Beyond opening night, BC Place will provide the best of both worlds for the fans, and for each team, which will benefit from the ability to adjust to the elements outside.

During hot summer nights, the retractable roof will provide a cool breeze to make a three-hour game a lot more enjoyable to sit through. It was a big source of contention with the old fully-domed stadium, which suffocated some fans watching football indoors.

*“Vancouverites who haven't caught a sporting event in decades are suddenly scooping up tickets.”*

Conversely, Empire Field exposed fans to the elements especially the last couple seasons. It also exposed fans to some losing football, as the Lions went 5-9 at the temporary park.

At the new facility, when Vancouver is getting pounded with rain, the roof can be

closed to keep fans dry and happy. However, it won't be able to close in time if rain hits the field during play. Officials will have to monitor weather reports prior to any game and make a decision accordingly.

Either way, hopefully the Lions can keep up the winning tradition at BC Place, which has been good to the franchise during most of its existence.

It was, of course, the site of B.C.'s memorable Grey Cup win in 1994 when Lui Passaglia put a last-second kick through the uprights to defeat the American-stacked Baltimore Stallions.

There have been some other great teams, including the 1985 and 2006 Grey Cup-winning squads, which also created some fond memories for fans at BC Place.

Looking ahead, it's going to be a big year for Vancouver and the new BC Place, just like it was when it opened for the first time back in 1983.

The renovated facility plays host to a pair of national championship games. There is, of course, the Grey Cup on November 27th and the Lions are hoping to climb back into con-

tention to give their fans something to be excited about in two months' time.

It's what the team did back in '83 when they hosted the Toronto Argonauts — actually on the exact same day this year's Grey Cup championship is being played.

*“It's going to be a big year for Vancouver and the new BC Place, just like it was when it first opened.”*

B.C. unfortunately dropped a heartbreaker, 18-17, but the current Lions want to finish the job this time around. It's also home to the 2011 Vanier Cup, which goes two days before to crown the champion of Canadian university football.

Many taxpayers were outraged to be contributing to the \$565 million upgrade, but these events will attract a great deal of fanfare across the country and help some of us relive the joys of the 2010 Winter Games.

Besides, BC Place has been

a mainstay in the Vancouver skyline over the past 28 years, and will be for at least another 30 years.

It's definitely not the iconic domed stadium anymore. In fact, at one point it looked like that giant spider from the movie *Wild Wild West*. But as construction nears completion everything is coming together quite nicely.

And now Vancouver will officially own the title of having the world's largest cable-supported retractable stadium. The high-definition scoreboards — four in total which will hang from the middle of the roof — will be one of the eye-opening features.

The five million dollar screen will stretch 24 feet wide and 13.5 feet high on each side, and is tabbed as the second biggest next to the one at Cowboys Stadium in Dallas.

The facelift BC Place received for the Olympics was incredible for anyone who had the pleasure of experiencing the Games there. But the 2011 opening is expected to blow the roof off when the Lions and Whitecaps inaugurate a new era.





## BCITSA Info & News



### BCITSA's iPad Giveaway

Become a fan of the BCITSA Facebook page, tag yourself in Orientation Week pictures (you don't even have to be in the picture!), and you will be entered into a draw for a brand new iPad! The winner will be announced via BCITSA's Facebook and Twitter pages.



## MUSHROOM CUP

Visit the Great Hall (SE2) between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. from September 24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> to compete in BCITSA's Mario Kart competition! Prizes available for the best times!



### Apply for the Student Initiative Fund before October 14<sup>th</sup>

Students can apply for financial assistance to take part in extracurricular activities related to their career. Details for requirements can be found in Uconnect Resource Centre or online at [www.bcitsa.ca](http://www.bcitsa.ca).

**Due dates as follows:** October 14, January 16, April 13 (4p.m.)

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### BACK-TO-CLASS 20-DAY GIVEAWAY

Buy any **STAEDTLER** product from participating locations this September to receive your ballot for a daily prize.

**\$1,500 WORTH OF PRIZES TO BE WON!**  
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## Harvest Box

10-12LBS OF FRESH SEASONAL FRUITS & VEGETABLES DELIVERED TO THE BURNABY CAMPUS ON THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH



Contact Uconnect Resource Centre for details!

### Executive Weigh-In



#### A message from BCITSA VP Finance Ricky Dasgupta

Welcome to all new and incoming students to another school year. I would like to share few things that I feel will help you during your time at BCIT.

To start off, I recommend attending peer tutoring sessions on Monday to Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the top floor of the library. The sessions are free and it is a great opportunity to interact with friendly tutors who have taken your class before and are there to help.

One thing you need to succeed at BCIT is balance. Participating in intramural sports or any of the other activities offered by Recreation Services gives you the opportunity to have some fun while making new friends.

Get involved by joining clubs. Your educational experience at BCIT is going to be much more rewarding by being surrounded by motivated, intelligent, and passionate students.

Finally, I encourage you to take advantage of the services the BCIT Student Association offers. I would like to highlight two services in particular: advocacy and the health & dental plan. Many of you already pay for them so might as well use them.

Advocacy fights for your interests in regards to any academic or non-academic issue. Got a problem with your grade or discrimination or anything else? Talk to our advocate.

Your health and dental plan offers free teeth cleaning on Thursdays and Fridays and \$10 chiropractor on Wednesdays. Talk to our Health Plan Coordinator at Uconnect (SE2 286 at the Burnaby campus) for more information.

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# Dear Di...

with Di Daniels (University of Ottawa)

Dear Di,  
I really want to make a sex tape, but my girlfriend refuses. She called it a "recipe for disaster" and said that sex tapes are a last-ditch resort for desperate celebrities looking to restore their fame. I have the best sex of my life with my girlfriend and I want her to see how hot we are, but I can't seem to convince her to get naked in front of a camera. Her outright refusal to experiment makes me worry that we'll eventually hit a rut in our sex life.

— Lights, Camera, No Action

Dear LCNA,  
Let me level with you: Sex tapes can be risky business. All too often they seem to wind up in the wrong hands and are then plastered all over the "Amateur" section of any free porn website. However, when made, viewed, and enjoyed by two consenting adults in the privacy of their own home, sex tapes can be an extremely titillating addition to foreplay.

Although I always encourage my readers to safely explore their kinky sides and experiment sexually, I fear that your attempts at "convincing" your lady love may have upset and alienated her. Try asking her how she would feel if she were in possession of the only copy of the tape. Perhaps the two of you could watch it once and destroy it together afterwards.

If your girlfriend is still uncomfortable with making a sex tape, it's time to cut your losses and explore other erotic avenues together. Why not have sex standing up in front of a full-length mirror? It's all the fun of a sex tape, but none of the risk. Ask your woman to describe her naughtiest fantasies and share your own with her, and then do your damndest to make those dreams reality.

At the end of the day, fantastic sex is the result of mutual agreement and enthusiasm, not one partner

persistently pestering the other to "give in." If you want to continue having the "best sex of your life," you'll put in the effort to find something wild and steamy that will get you both off.

Love,  
Di

Dear Di,  
Is it weird for women to enjoy watching pornos? I feel like it's only socially acceptable for guys to jerk it to X-rated films because my friends are always complaining about their boyfriends watching porn. I masturbate to erotic movies all the time and I feel like a freak.

—Porn Lover and Not Proud

Dear PLNP,  
If you're a freak, then so am I, because I can't get enough porn! Bondage, queer, orgies, MILFs, and mature—I've seen it all and I've enjoyed most of what I've seen.

Sadly, I do have to agree that society typically depicts pornography as a man's pleasure and a woman's vexation.

Women are expected to feel repulsed and angry when they discover their male partners viewing erotica. Unfortunately, women who do enjoy porn are often shamed into hiding their porn preferences for fear of appearing sexually deviant.

Admittedly, many ladies are turned off by erotic movies because of a perceived prevalence of violent behaviour toward women in porn; however, there are countless female-friendly films and X-rated websites out there!

You should not feel embarrassed or alone for masturbating to pornography. I assure you that at this very moment, many, many women are rubbing their love buttons while watching engorged penises and wet pussies flash across their laptop screens.

Perhaps your friends who are "disgusted" by porn have never taken the time to look for a genre they enjoy.

Or, even more likely, your girls are just like you: They're watching porn too, but won't own up to it for fear of being ostracized.

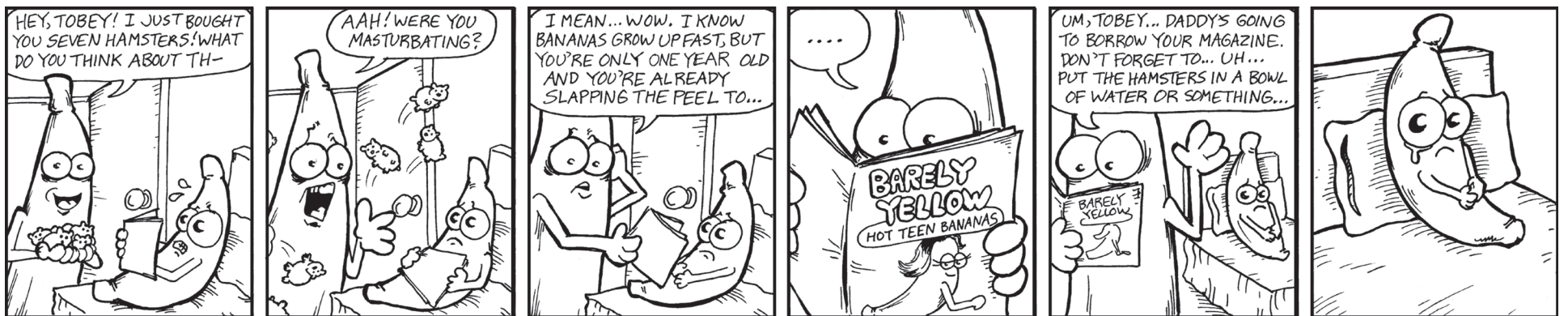
I lament to hear that, even in 2011, people are still adhering to the belief that sexuality is defined by gender. Listen, dear readers: As long as you aren't hurting yourself or someone else, feel free to flick your bean or stroke your sausage to whatever you damn well please.

Love,  
Di

Do you have a question for Di?  
Email [deardi@thefulcrum.ca](mailto:deardi@thefulcrum.ca)



Single Dad Banana - Benjamin Ripley (University of Alberta)



Children's Stories - Andrew McLachlan (Camosun College)



Send your own comics to  
[publications@bcitsa.ca](mailto:publications@bcitsa.ca)