



GRIFFIN GAZETTE

Ecole Secondaire Burnsvew Secondary

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The Federal Election

POST 2019 ELECTION Review

After 40 long days of campaigns, promises and rallies, Canada has voted. And we have never been more divided. With 157 seats, the Liberals and Justin Trudeau have been re-elected, but this time as a minority government. The Conservatives and Andrew Scheer make up the official opposition with 121 seats, gaining huge support in the prairies. The NDP, Green Party and Bloc Québécois hold 59 seats in the House of Commons. Jodie Wilson-Raybould, an independent member of parliament (MP), from the Granville Island Riding, takes the 338th spot in the house.

With the Liberal Party losing almost 30 seats this election, we must ask ourselves where we stand as a nation. We have seen that Alberta and Saskatchewan are heavily in favour of a Conservative Government, with issues such as the pipeline, gas and gun control being more prevalent in the party's priorities and the province's needs. On the other hand, The Bloc gained 22 additional seats in the house, taking away from the NDP, whose previous "territory" was Quebec. In addition, Elizabeth May, leader of the Green Party, has stepped down. For now, Jo-Ann Roberts, a former journalist for CBC, has stepped in as interim leader of the party.

Her role will be to expand the party's member status, meaning the number of people that are signed up as part of the party, as they set a record number of votes this year. The Green Party has steadily grown over the past few elections since Ms. May won the first Green seat in 2011. This year they finally broke out of BC and gained a seat in New Brunswick.

This brings up an important question, how will Canada vote in 2023? With climate change activists such as Greta Thunberg leading the charge for youth activism, will we begin to see a change in the way our next generation of voters vote? According to "Student Vote," the program our school used during our own election, the Liberals and NDP took the majority of the seats in the House, but the Conservatives held the highest percentage of votes. During the actual election, the NDP only managed to secure 24 seats in the House of Commons, but when left to the students, they received 98. Is this a sign of the direction our country is heading in? Should we expect to still be divided when we take to the polls again, or will the youth of our country take charge and stand together to conquer common goals? Only time will tell. One thing's for certain, we have an interesting 4 years ahead of us!

By: Emily Bancroft

Encounters with Canada

Looking for an amazing, one-week trip to the nation's capital? The opportunity to explore potential career options, try new

things? Meet other kids aged 14-17, from all over the country for under \$1000? Then Encounters with Canada, Canada's largest



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youth forum, located in Ottawa, is the place for you!

I knew once I heard about the program, from Burnsvie career centre, I had to apply! What better way to get out of my comfort zone and meet new people than with this program? As an aspiring journalist, looking to get a degree in communications, I chose the week of “Media and Communications,” to further my understanding of the field and learn if I am truly interested in pursuing this career. When I arrived at YVR on Saturday morning, I was alone and nervous to start my week. In less than an hour, while waiting to take off, I had made 15 new friends from right here in BC, who were equally excited to begin the adventure. By Sunday night, I had gotten learned the names of a vast majority of the people and learned more about the culture outside of the west coast. One of the best parts of living where we do in North Delta, is that we are not too far off from the big city life, but there is always something new to explore when we venture downtown. Not all the people who participated in the week were as fortunate as we are to get the best of both worlds. I got to be in the company of people who came from towns with populations as small as 20 people. I got to see and hear about their first impressions of being in a place as exciting as Ottawa, and how it left them in awe. It was truly something special to be apart of. Each person that walks through the doors of the Terry Fox Youth Center has their own story to share, and by learning more about others, I began to appreciate even more the beautiful country of Canada.

In addition to the wonderful people at Encounters, we got the opportunity to participate in many cultural and theme-

specific activities. The activities we did corresponded to the week we selected during the application. For my media and communications week, we were involved in many social games and activities. My personal highlights were attending a youth summit on violent extremism online, which took place at the Hilton in Gatineau, and creating a professional web video at the CBC radio headquarters in Montréal. These 2 programs and workshops gave me the chance to challenge myself as an individual. While at the conference, I had the opportunity to discuss my opinions and ideas on how hate speech and negative comments influence our views on the world. Cyber bullying is a very relevant problem in this generation, and we are always looking for new ways to prevent it. At this summit, I was able to talk about how I think we should address such issues with professionals who were looking for teenage perspectives. At CBC radios, I opted to participate in an all-French workshop, I am in the French immersion program here at Burnsvie and am always looking for new ways to practice my second language. This was very difficult for me, as my French is strong in a classroom, but not so much in a less formal and more conversational setting. Throughout the day, I became more comfortable with my own speech, and I picked up a thing or two, as most of my group was from Québec. These 2 activities were so amazing to be apart of, but I would have probably never had the opportunity to do either, had it not been for Encounters.

Now that my week is over and I have only the pictures, videos and memories to reflect on, I know I have left Ottawa with nothing but positive experiences, new friendships and the reassurance that journalism and communications is the thing for me. We live in the best country in the



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world, and I have never been prouder to be Canadian!

By: Emily Bancroft

Important Days and Anniversaries

Day of the Dead

The Day of The Dead (*Día de Muertos*) is a Mexican holiday. Families gather to remember and pray for those who have passed to help them in their spiritual journey.



In Mexican culture, death is seen as a natural part of life and Mexicans honour it by celebrating the awakening of their souls. The roots of the Day of the Dead, celebrated in Mexico and by those of Mexican heritage, go back some 3,000 years, to the rituals honouring the dead in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica. The Aztecs and other Nahua people living in what is now central Mexico held a cyclical view of the universe. Upon dying, a person was believed to travel to Chicunamictlán, the Land of the Dead. Only after getting through nine challenging levels, a journey of several years, does the person's soul finally reach Mictlán, the final resting place. In Nahua rituals for honoring the dead, traditionally held in August, family members provided food, water and tools to aid the deceased in this difficult journey.

The Day of the Dead is held between October 31st and November 2nd. During the day, families travel to their loved one's graves to clean and decorate them, they then

set up *ofrendas* (altars). Many ofrendas include orange marigolds, the flowers are believed to attract the souls of the dead to the offerings set up, and the bright petals with strong scents are thought to guide the souls from cemeteries to their families' homes. The families often set up altars, or small shrines in their homes as well. These sometimes include Christian crosses, statues or pictures of Virgin Mary, pictures of deceased relatives or other people, scores of candles and an ofrenda.

They celebrate by holding a feast of the deceased's favourite foods and drinks, visiting their graves with gifts- toys for young children, and bottles of drinks for adults. Candies and trinkets are popular feast items as well.

Each year, hundreds of people dress up as Catrinas and descend on the *zócalo* to take part in the Catrina Parade.

Attendees paint their faces in the typical style of the Catrina skull, complete with colorful





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accents around the eyes and cheeks, and dress in appropriate outfits. Images from these

parades are often what non-Mexicans picture when they think of the Day of the Dead.

By: Nourrah Markiw

Remembrance Day

Every November 11th, at precisely 11 a.m., Canadians celebrate Remembrance Day. This important date which originally marked the end of World War I, has since become a day to recall the memories of fallen soldiers and honour all those who have served in our nation's defense over the years.

A History of Remembrance Day in Canada

Originally called Armistice Day, Remembrance Day was first introduced in April of 1919. Following the end of World War I, Member of Parliament Isaac Pedlow decided that the commemoration be held on the second Monday of November each year. On November 6th, King George V of England inaugurated the date throughout most of the British Empire, decreeing that two minutes of silence must be held at exactly 11 a.m.

This continued until 1921, when a Canadian bill revised the date again, it would now fall on Monday, the week of November the 11th. Strangely, this put Armistice Day at around the same time as Thanksgiving, a vastly different celebration. While the public was confused, veterans of the First World War were outraged. For the rest of the 1920s, there were few public demonstrations in Canada.

Nevertheless, everything changed in 1928, veterans and their families began pushing for more recognition, they wanted Armistice Day to be separate from Thanksgiving Day. The federal government, hearing their protests, consequently decreed that Armistice Day be held on November

11th and no other date; Thanksgiving was moved to a different day. Moreover, the name of the holiday was changed from Armistice Day to Remembrance Day, to better emphasize the soldiers being remembered.

Since then, the term has expanded to include not only the soldiers from the First and Second World Wars, but also the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the War in Afghanistan, and other peacekeeping missions and conflicts.

Remembrance Day Symbols and Traditions

The most prominent and well-known symbol of Remembrance Day is the poppy. Canadian Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae depicted fields of poppies growing in Ypres, Belgium in his famous poem *In Flanders Fields*. Since then, the flower has gained considerable popularity as the symbol of Remembrance Day, and millions of Canadians now wear a poppy over their hearts to express their remembrance.





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Preceding Remembrance Day, Veterans' Week is held from November 5th to November 11th. This week is a time to thank the veterans who have fought to preserve the peace and freedom we enjoy today. On Remembrance Day, an annual ceremony takes place in Ottawa at the National War Memorial. Attended by tens of thousands of spectators, it begins with the playing of *The Last Post*, followed by two minutes of silence at precisely 11 a.m. *Reveille* is then played to conclude this moment of solemn reflection. Finally, the

dignitaries (wreath layers) place wreaths of poppies around the base of the memorial.

Remembrance Day is now recognized as a national holiday, a day for people to reflect on the sacrifices of those who have gone before us and those who continue to serve today. Millions of Canadians wear poppies and participate in ceremonies every November 11th, to honour and remember those who have died to protect our nation.

Lest we forget.

By: Michelle Huang

Canada History Week

Did you know that November 18th to the 24th is Canada History Week?

Canada History Week is an opportunity for us to learn more about our people and country. Canada is a country full of unique people, places and events. It a great chance for us to communicate and discuss



Annie Buller addressing a crowd before the Estevan Riots, SK, 1931

many interesting topics. Recent years have marked important

Canadian milestones and have thus had many interesting topics:

2016 was the 100th anniversary women gaining the right to vote in Canada. The main topic was great women in Canadian history.

The main idea for 2017 was: *Human rights in Canada: Challenges and*

Achievements on the Path to a more Inclusive and Compassionate Society

2018: *Science, Creativity and Innovation: Our Canadian Story*

This year's theme is: *Working for the Future: A century of change in how Canadians work.* Many important events will



be brought up this year, such as the fight for a woman's right to work and the Winnipeg

Internees being marched off to dinner at the Petawawa internment camp during the First World War.

General Strike. There has also been discussion about railway porters and their union activity. Overall, this year will have



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quite a bit of emphasis in how the way Canadians work has changed. There will also be some discussion about the Silent Revolution in Quebec.

If you would like to know more about this important week, visit www.historicacanada.ca.

By: ZF. Chen



Organized Activism: The turning point in Quebec. The strike continued to play an important role in the minds of Quebec intellectuals in the years leading up to the Quiet Revolution.

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

Taking place from the “International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women” (November 25th) to “Human Rights Day” (December 10th) is an event known as “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.”

It is meant to raise awareness for people who are facing discrimination and brutality because of their gender or how they may identify. It began when activists at the 1991 inauguration of the Center for Women’s Global Leadership decided to begin protesting for these causes. It has continued to take place every year since then thanks to the Center. This event is (mainly) for girls and women around the globe, for the forestalling and eradication of violence based on their gender.

Whilst the names, ages, races and locations of females may vary, many endure rape, sexual violence, abuse, and disrespect simply because they are girls/women. This event focuses on fighting against such widespread issues.

Throughout the years, this event has had many names and themes, including: “Orange the World: Safe Space for Women and Girls” in 2013, “Orange YOUR

By: Samantha Eberl



Neighborhood” in 2014, “Orange Your World: End Violence Against Women and Girls” in 2015, “Orange the World: Raise Money to End Violence Against Women and Girls” in 2016, “Orange the World: Leave No One Behind”, and “Orange the World: #HearMeToo” in 2018.

In 2019, the UNiTE campaign will mark the theme of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence under the name, “Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Up against Rape!”

What Can YOU Do?

Want to promote 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence? You can spread the word to your community, friends, and family. This event focuses on “Orange the World”, so you can wear orange on 1 or all 16 days. You can also raise money for this powerful cause and donate on the Canadian Women’s Foundation [website](#). You can also support online by using #MeToo, #TimesUp, #Niunamenos, #NotOneMore, #BalanceTonPorc and similar tags.



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30 Years Since the Fall of Communism

November 10th, 2019 marked the 30th anniversary of the falling of the Berlin Wall. The Berlin Wall was a barrier that both physically and ideologically divided East Germany (occupied by the Soviets) and West Germany (occupied by the Allied zones of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France).

After the defeat of the Nazis in WWII, each of the Allied nations began occupying a part of Germany. However, the countries had different views for Germany, while the Soviets created the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), the Allies created the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany). Before the wall had been put up, many East Germans had left, violating the immigration restrictions of the GDR by crossing from East to West Berlin. From West Berlin, they would escape into West Germany and the other Western countries. The death toll of people who attempted escaping after the erection of the wall was over 138 people, while between 1961 and 1989, over 5000 escaped.

People wanted to leave East Germany, due to the Soviet Union extracting resources from the people for "war reparations," and the lack of personal freedoms. Towards the end of the 80s, East Germans began protesting, demanding democracy and reunification with their families. These demonstrations sparked an announcement on the evening of November 9th, 1989 by the GDR that travel would be made easier. This brought thousands of East Berliners to the wall, and the guards, overwhelmed were forced to open the wall to

By: Astha Sharma

them. People from both Western and Eastern Berlin rejoiced, climbed upon the wall, and began to tear it down. Soon Germany was reunified, and not long after, the Soviet Union had fallen.

This event had inspired and given hope to the world and showed that any walls put up with the purpose to divide people are also the walls that we can, and will, tear down. Best worded in the graffiti of an unknown person on the remaining parts of the Berlin Wall, *"Forget not the tyranny of this wall, nor the love of freedom that made it fall."*

At the same time, also trying to free itself from communism was Czechoslovakia. The Velvet Revolution, in November to December of 1989, Czechoslovakia freed itself of its communist one-party government that had ruled for 41 years. A series of strikes continued from November 16 to 29, beginning with a peaceful student strike. However, the Communist Party of Slovakia had expected the youth to be more violent and had alerted the armed forces before the protest. By the end of these series of demonstrations that were turned into violent altercations, what were once just demands, turned into a need for a new government. Anti-communist literature was finally accessible, bringing back the free speech the government had censored. On the 29th of November, the Federal Assembly had removed the clause that had given the Communist Party its power to begin with thus ending the communist rule of Czechoslovakia.



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Local News

Upcoming Events

When I first began looking into local events that are coming up soon, I thought that there would be lots going on this time of year. Turns out November and December are not all that busy aside from Christmas events. I have done my best to focus on events that aren't all Christmas based. Here is the shortlist of the ones I, in my research, have found to be the most interesting:

Cirque du Soleil – Now to December 29th

Cirque du Soleil is back in Vancouver this year with LUZIA. According to the Cirque du Soleil website, “LUZIA takes you to an imaginary Mexico, like in a waking dream, where light (“luz” in Spanish) quenches the spirit and rain (“lluvia”) soothes the soul. With a surrealistic series of grand visual surprises and breathtaking acrobatic performances, LUZIA cleverly brings to the stage multiple places, faces and sounds of Mexico taken from both tradition and modernity.” They are performing under the big top at Concord Pacific Place.

Santa Claus Parade – December 1st

A Christmas themed event, the Santa Claus Parade will be happening from 12:00pm-1:30pm on December 1st. It will feature many interesting vehicles, people in costumes, dancing groups and of course, Santa Clause himself.

Be sure to check out some of these great events this winter!

By: Ethan Quinn

Vancouver Christmas Market – November 20th to December 24th

Another Christmas event, the Vancouver Christmas market is back for its tenth year! It's taking place at the Jack Poole Plaza near the Vancouver Convention Centre. You can buy all sorts of Christmas themed foods and gifts there along with a nice steaming cup of apple cider. It is open everyday from 11:30 am to 9:30 pm, if you go later in the day, be sure to bundle up as it is an outdoor event.

The Peak of Christmas – November 22nd to January 5th

The Peak of Christmas is another fun event, it takes place at Grouse Mountain. There is ice skating, Christmas movies on the big screen, Santa's workshop and again, Jolly Old St. Nick himself! I have been to this event at least once (maybe even more than once) and I remember it as being a lot of fun.

Pop Culture

“Ok, Boomer” Explained

Almost daily, youth aren't taken seriously because of our age. We're told we want “participation trophies,” or that we

suffer from “Peter Pan Syndrome” and don't want to grow up, however this couldn't be any further from the truth. Growing up in a



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world we've never known to be without conflict, we have to watch our future and planet be exploited right before our very eyes just for economic benefit. We've grown up hearing about, and sometimes even seeing, our peer, people our age, get shot in a place that was meant to keep us safe.

When we say "Ok, Boomer," we meant it in the same way some adults mean when they call us "Snowflakes" for saying something that should be as uncontroversial as "Climate change exists."

"Ok, Boomer" isn't supposed to be a slur or something that we say to offend anyone older than us, but a way to express our
By: Astha Sharma

exasperations with the people who speak to us and disregard the things we care so very much about in their infamous condescending manner.

Our world is changing, and our generation has become fed up with the dismissiveness, or the full "ignorance is bliss" mentality older generations regard us with. It's not meant to hurt the feelings or disrespect anyone over the age of thirty, and it certainly isn't a slur that people should have to ban from the workplace. Most of the time, it is just meant as a joke; every now and then, it is a way for us to vent our frustration at not being taken seriously.

Tech News

Google Achieves Quantum Supremacy

On October 23, 2019, Google released the news that they have achieved quantum supremacy after 13 years of hard work. Quantum supremacy is the act of completing a task that is impossible to complete even with the most powerful of today's supercomputers. To achieve this feat, Google used a quantum computer with a 53-qubit processor to solve a task that would otherwise take 10,000 years, in an astonishing 200 seconds. This was possible due to the phenomenon of superposition, which lets the quantum computer compute exponentially faster. This achievement is extremely significant in the world of technology, it might enable us to solve otherwise unsolvable problems with the help of quantum computers, in the near future.

Google Atteint La Supr matie Quantique

Le 23 octobre 2019, Google a annonc  qu'ils avaient atteint la supr matie quantique apr s 13 ans de dur labeur. La supr matie quantique est l'acte d'accomplir une t che impossible   r ussir m me avec les superordinateurs les plus puissants d'aujourd'hui. Pour r aliser cet exploit, Google a utilis  un ordinateur quantique dot  d'un processeur de 53 qubits pour r soudre une t che qui, autrement, aurait fallu 10 000 ans, en 200 secondes. Cela est possible gr ce au ph nom ne de la superposition, qui permet   l'ordinateur quantique de calculer plus rapidement de mani re exponentielle. Cette r alisation est extr mement importante dans le monde de la technologie, car dans un avenir proche, nous pourrions peut- tre r soudre des probl mes insolubles   l'aide des ordinateurs quantiques.



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If this advancement proves to be useful, and if we really have entered the era of quantum technologies, this can have a multitude of benefits in the long term. These may include revolutionizing our quality of scientific research and simulation, which will inevitably improve health care, simulating global warming combating strategies, and significantly improving artificial intelligence. Powerful physics models and universal simulations will be created with these futuristic machines.

Don't get too excited though. Even though this is an incredible breakthrough in the scientific field, we are still a long way from taking this lab experiment and applying it to the real world. For one, handling qubits is extremely difficult. To stabilize their quantum state, qubits must be isolated and frozen in extremely cold temperatures. Also, this experiment was essentially useless, the calculation was pointless, it had no profitability or benefit. In the end, this is a tremendous step towards advancing a technologically reliant world like ours, and with other big companies (like IBM) working toward the same goal, we will inevitably achieve wonders following this amazing breakthrough.

Si cette avancée s'avère utile et si nous sommes vraiment entrés dans l'ère des technologies quantiques, cela peut avoir une multitude d'avantages à long terme, surtout de révolutionner la qualité de la recherche scientifique et de la simulation, ce qui améliorera inévitablement les soins de santé et les stratégies de combattre le réchauffement climatique, ainsi qu'une amélioration significative de l'intelligence artificielle. De puissants modèles physiques et des simulations universelles seront créés avec ces machines futuristes.

Ne vous emballez cependant pas trop vite, car même si on a accompli une avancée incroyable dans le domaine scientifique, nous sommes encore loin de prendre cette expérience de laboratoire et de l'appliquer au monde réel. D'une part, la manipulation des qubits est extrêmement difficile, car pour stabiliser leur état quantique, ils doivent être isolés et congelés dans un endroit extrêmement froid. En outre, cette expérience était essentiellement inutile, en ce sens que le calcul était inutile et n'avait aucune rentabilité ni d'avantage. Mais, au final, c'est un grand pas en avant pour faire avancer un monde technologiquement dépendant, et avec d'autres grandes entreprises (comme IBM) qui poursuivent le même objectif, nous réaliserons inévitablement des merveilles après cette incroyable avancée.

By: Hargun Mujral

If you have any feedback, suggestions or inquiries, please fill out the following form: <https://forms.gle/KUNr2x8Cyf2uGURo6>

If you would like to submit a piece (poem, article, comic, short story, etc.), please fill out the following form: <https://forms.gle/DWELacnLLYzRkEp86>

If you would like to appreciate somebody, please fill out the following form: <https://forms.gle/igwn7aFUjh8HcLoy7>

If you would like to join the club, email the editor, Gurleen Bhangu at gurleenb037@deltalearns.ca.

THANK YOU FOR READING!