Benefit Cosmetics Hires Model with Down Syndrome

The 61st annual Grammy Awards took place on Sunday, Feb 10th and were hosted by singer and songwriter Alicia Keys. Overall, there were many talented nominees across 84 categories in various genres. While the number of awards hasn’t changed since last year, there were a few important changes made for this year’s awards. The biggest change in the structure of the award show was that the number of nominees for the ‘Big 4’ categories was upped from five nominees to eight nominees. This was done in an effort to introduce more diversity into the event following criticism over last year’s show.

Starting with the biggest 4 categories; Record of the Year and Song of the Year both went to Childish Gambino for his song “This is America”, Album of the Year went to country singer Kacey Musgraves for “Golden Hour”, and the Best New Artist was pop song duo Dua Lipa. The biggest winners of the night were Kacey Musgraves and Childish Gambino, with four Grammys each. Notable performances included tributes to Dolly Parton, Donny Hathaway, and Aretha Franklin; a 10 song, a dual-piano solo performance by Alicia Keys; A Motown 60th anniversary performance; and songs from Lady Gaga, Post Malone, Travis Scott, Cardi B, and more.

This prestigious event in music often draws a lot of controversies, and this year was no exception. Many big-name artists such as Drake and Kendrick Lamar flat-out refused to perform, and Ariana Grande and Childish Gambino were no-shows. 2018’s Grammy awards were disappointing to many viewers due to the lack of diversity in the winner’s pool, with pop artists like Bruno Mars and Ed Sheeran beating out artists that had a stronger impact with their music – such as Logic and his song “1-800-273-8255.”

Many artists and fans believe that the Grammys are nothing more than a popularity contest – giving the most attention to artists who sell more copies, rather than to those who have a more meaningful effect on the industry and on societal issues. While this year’s awards did improve on the diversity factor thanks to more female winners, it seems that the Recording Academy (they have the final say in who wins) still need to do a better job listening to the artists they represent.

For example, Drake literally got cut off while doing his speech, after encouraging fellow artists that they “don’t need [a Grammy] right now” and pointing out that “a bunch of people” (presumably Academy members) don’t understand the cultural impacts behind the music. Ariana Grande explained over Twitter that the reason she failed to perform at or attend the event was because she felt that her “creativity and self-expression was stifled” by Grammy producer Ken Ehrlich who would not let her perform the songs she wanted to.

While it is true that music is entirely subjective, many hardworking artists still get snubbed every year. The Grammys need to embrace music as a platform for change, and not only for its appeal to people’s ears and wallets. They have long been criticized for change, and not only for its appeal to people’s ears and wallets. They have made slow progress over the years by awarding more and more diverse artists, but it seems this has all been due to backlash from previous years. For the Grammys to stay relevant, they need to respect the one thing they stand for – the artists.

Benefit Cosmetics hired model with Down Syndrome

Alicia Keys hosted the 61st Annual Grammys

The Grammy Awards 2019
A Quick Recap of the Most Awaited Music Awards of the Year
It’s just the beginning of reading week as I am writing this. With the whole week ahead of me, I just feel like diving into a book with a cup of hot choco. I literally do some reading (ha-ha, I know!), curled up next to a fireplace. But let’s be real. I live in a student housing and there is no fireplace or hot chocolate anywhere near me. But that’s not a matter. So, I really just feel like reading a book, sans accessories. To share the joy of reading, I thought I’d recommend some of my favourite books to you, with my reviews. To be fair, I haven’t read these in a while, but they have changed my life in small, little ways.

One of the ways that my life, my favourite book of all time has to be I am the Messenger by Markus Zusak. The story is told from the perspective of the protagonist, Ed Kennedy, who has a strained relationship with his mother and lives alone with his dog, the Doorman. Ed has three friends, one of whom, Audrey, is in love with him. One day, Ed accidentally comes in the way of a robbery and is dubbed a local hero. A few days later, he receives an envelope containing an Ace of Diamonds, three addresses and three letters written on. At one address he finds a woman who is being raped by her husband, at another a girl who runs barefoot everyday and still hasn’t learned to read. Ed as he comes up with unique solutions to take away these sorrows from these people while putting himself through emotional and physical agony. More Ace keep showing up after he accomplishes these tasks. His own life takes a backseat in the process as he is consumed by curiosity – he doesn’t know who is sending him these cards. However, the character development of Ed, and how his relationships grow because of that is what makes this book so beautiful, heartbreak, and touching. The reader feels for her as she risks her life for books that she isn’t able to read. She proves to us that unbiased learning is worth everything that you can ever experience. This book made me realize tears of sadness for this girl, who despite her courage and maturity is faced with numerous obstacles that she needs to overcome before she can obtain the knowledge she deserves. I recommend reading this book if you are a history enthusiast. It is in no way a light read but you start reading it, it is almost impossible to put it down. Just, read it for Liesel.

The next book I really enjoyed reading is Time Traveler’s Wife by Audrey Niffenegger. In this book, Niffenegger tells the story of Henry DeTamble, a librarian suffering from a genetic disorder that lets him time-travel. He cannot control where he goes and for how long, but usually ends up in places staining guilty for anything and everything he does. He has to bribe and cheat his way out of the central idea of the book. I call this book life changing because it reinitiates the idea that you don’t have to change the world to be proud, or a good person. Even if you are just the messenger, like Ed, you can still change the lives of only a few people and that would change the world for them.

After reading the book, I remember seeing the people around me in a new light. I am not so we are so consumed by our own life that we forget that the people around us have their own struggles, thoughts, conscience, and it is unfair to perceive the them with biases that often fog our eyes. I highly suggest reading this book if you would like to refresh your perception of the world around you, or even for just a quick light read. You will not be disappointed.

Zusak is better known for The Book Thief, easily his most popular work. This book follows the life of Liesel, a young girl who loses her father and moves in with her foster parents. The book is set in Nazi Germany. Her foster father Max, a boxer who has been hiding in the basement, and also Rudy, a neighbour who ends up falling in love with her. Liesel starts stealing books that the Nazis are trying to destroy while reading them. While the story itself is heart-clutching, to say the least, what struck me the most about this book is the narrative. Zusak introduced Death as a narrator in this novel. We see Death personified as gentle and caring. It makes sense to have Death as its own character because he sees everything. In the Nazi regime, death was so prevalent that only Death could accurately describe the happenings. The mortality of everything around Liesel is what makes this book so beautiful, heartbreak, and touching. The reader feels for her as she risks her life for books that she isn’t able to read. She proves to us that unbiased learning is worth everything that you can ever experience. This book made me realize tears of sadness for this girl, who despite her courage and maturity is faced with numerous obstacles that she needs to overcome before she can obtain the knowledge she deserves. I recommend reading this book if you are a history enthusiast. It is in no way a light read but you start reading it, it is almost impossible to put it down. Just, read it for Liesel.

The story follows Offred, a handmaid who has been employed to bear with and for her commander. The “ceremony” for this happens silently, dispassionately, and with her commander’s wife holding her hand. She is not allowed to leave the house, except for shopping trips with a peer. The Eyes, a secret police force, are always watching her and other handmaids. In the novel, Offred breaks rules by befriending her commander, being friends with a member of an underground rebellion, and having an affair. She recalls events leading up to her becoming a handmaid and misses her daughter from her free life dearly. The mystery develops as her commander’s wife promises to reconnect her with her daughter, in return for a favour. My favourite part about the book is that Offred, even in this situation where she cannot help herself, shows courage in any way she can. Little anecdotes in that are dispersed throughout the novel display the author’s genius in shining light on how rebellion works can be. I love Atwood’s way of writing a feminist story when the whole setting is sexist. This book is in no way an easy read. I took a number of breaks just to catch my breath from the stress of reading it. Nonetheless, it was so worth it. You will definitely love this book if you are a feminist or like strong characters in your prose.

The Book Thief has also been made into a motion picture that you can watch if reading is not something you like to do. The Handmaid’s Tale is a TV show as well. All four of the books I have mentioned are really relevant today despite being set in various timelines. As you can tell, I enjoy catharsis and books seem to do the trick for me. This list is in no way complete. There are so many beautiful books out there! I hope you find a format that you enjoy, of the even a different book. Some of the books that I enjoyed reading in the past include Of Mice and Men, The Kite Runner, and for some light reading I really enjoyed reading The Dying Girl. If you have read or are reading any of the books I mentioned, or if you have any recommendations for me to read, feel free to reach me at iwarrior@uwatwaterloo.ca.

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Send your submissions for the next issue to iwarrior@uwatwaterloo.ca. Winter 2018 Publication Schedule: January 24, February 7, February 28, March 14, March 28
Ontario's Electricity Generation
Where Does Your Power Come From?

The implementation of solid biomass to produce electric power can be achieved with different methods. The environmental impact can be diminished considerably, and since Canada has a high availability of biomass, sustainable power generation system can be developed using this renewable source. The energy production in Ontario has been based on nuclear power. As a result, “nuclear power meets more than 60 percent of Ontario’s electricity needs” as shown in Table 1. Using uranium as a primary source to produce electricity in an efficient way maintains greenhouse emissions relatively low. However, uranium is a radioactive non-renewable resource that can produce significant industry hazards such as health repercussions, and nuclear waste needs to be transported and stored. “High-level waste remains deadly for up to 10,000 years” representing high maintenance budgets and affecting the environmental degradation.

The solution proposed relies on the implementation of solid biomass waste for energy production and restructuration of nuclear power plants in Ontario. Power Generation as it produces completely a majority of biomass available in Canada. Biomass is defined as a sustainable source that requires considerable amounts for power generation regulating the organic waste present in the environment, and the carbon neutrality of bioenergy production systems was required for the significant mitigation of the carbon footprint. The generation of bioenergy using biomass, agricultural and forestry waste specifically, depends on the type of biological waste using different physical and chemical processes to obtain biofuels at low cost rates. The most effective methods are pyrolysis and gasification. Pyrolysis consists of the exposure of biomasses to high temperatures in a closed system without oxidizers to obtain liquid biofuels. Gasification comprises the thermoreduction of biomass using air and oxygen to produce gas biofuels.

As a result, the energy production in Ontario will not rely only on nuclear power which has limited uranium sources but also will give the aperture to develop a new ecological system that produces clean energy and helps to reduce the environmental problems.

There are several renewable sources such as biomass, hydro, wind, and solar that can be implemented to develop sustainable bioenergy production systems in different countries. Nonetheless, this research is focused on biomass as the primary source for electricity generation because Ontario has great availability of agricultural and woody waste, but this province has not developed a sustainable power system based on biomass. Hydro and wind bioenergy systems have been established in Ontario, for this reason, it would not be useful to research topics that are already developed. Analysis of the solid biomass availability and the required processes to produce biofuels will offer Ontario Power Generation a better understanding of the bioenergy efficiency and reliability to mitigate nuclear energy production.

Several effects are caused by the overuse of nuclear power in Ontario. One effect is the reliability of the energy generation system. The extraction of uranium resource will affect the availability of the source for the generation of electricity since it is a non-renewable resource and the disposal of uranium is limited. Moreover, according to Ontario Power Generation, uranium is eco-friendly because it can produce low emissions of greenhouse gases; however, affirms that Uranium produces several polluting repercussions to the environment due to its radioactive composition and high-level waste storage. Another impact is the overconsumption of electricity in Ontario since the subsidy provided by the government encourages individuals to waste significant amounts of energy. For example, according to Atomic energy of Canada Limited (AECL) is a financial basket case that has received $17.5 billion in subsidies already.

In conclusion, more research is needed in order to develop a sustainable power generation system based on biomass, which is a renewable source, in Ontario since the environmental impact generated by nuclear power production can be diminished considerably, and Canada has a high availability of biomass.

Apple Disrupts App Development at Facebook, Google

It’s easy enough for an ordinary consumer to avoid such seedy software sources. However, the spot between the silicon giants reveals a lot about them. For one thing, the depths that Facebook and Google will stoop to for access to user data: Facebook was essentially paying teenagers for private, perhaps intimate, information. There is, of course, the other side of the coin: the level of control that Apple holds over the devices it sells. Even with internal enterprise apps, Apple has the power to do as it sees fit. It may have been a public good to eliminate “Facebook Research” and “Screenwise Protect”, but that does not mean their decisions will remain consumer-friendly until the end of time.

Most telling of all is the resolution of the conflict. Facebook and Google had the opportunity to negotiate their way back to having their internal apps on their own. But the silicon giants revealed a lot about them. Facebook and Google would have probably not been so lucky, way back to having their internal apps.”

The Leadership Award is granted to an intermediate-level undergraduate student in the Faculty of Engineering who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the Faculty in the promotion of extra-curricular activities, including, but not limited to: Intramural Athletics, promotion of Engineering Society and Sanford Fleming Foundation events, competitions, etc., and for the support of associations, both on and off campus.

Nomination and Letters of Support from colleagues, faculty, and others familiar with the nominee’s accomplishments are extremely important and form the major basis upon which the Executive Committee of the Sanford Fleming Foundation will form its decision. Nominations must be submitted to the Foundation by April 30, 2019 and/or before the last day of the student’s 3A term.

The Memorial Award consists of a Certificate plus a citation, and on honorarium of $1,000.
With the snow days at their peak in Waterloo and the first year’s being on campus for their first winter, it is important to travel safely. Through the campus, whether you are getting to a lecture room or going out on your 10 minutes lecture break to grab a snack. In this article, I will share some tricks that can help you plan your commutes within the campus and also allow you to make short stops for grabbing some healthy snacks on your way.

For all us engineers, mostly all the lectures are held in the east and the south-east buildings on campus and if you commute by bus, there are a bunch of different stops that you can walk from to the nearest bus stop. Commuting into the campus on bus 7D, I usually get off at South Campus Hall stop and walk into SCH to grab my morning coffee. During my first year, most of my lectures were in DWE and RCH and I would walk a few steps and enter DWE, go downstairs to the 1st floor, and take the elevator to RCH. Once you are inside RCH or DWE, you can commute to any engineering building without going out in the snow. The tunnel from the first floor DWE opens in the 2nd floor RCH, and if you keep walking straight on that floor you will enter into 1st floor EWE. You will enter from the elevator to E2 from the overbridge on DWE 3rd floor which connects to the 3rd floor in E2. E2 is connected to CPH, so if you feel hungry on the way to your lecture room in E7, it is time to grab a snack from the CnD near poe in CPH. CPH is also one of the buildings on campus that will help to reduce carbon emissions, instead of walking out in the snow all the way from SCH you can now walk to CPH comfortably and run to the plaza right across the road. As soon as you reach the 3rd floor in E2, you can enter E3 and walk through the mechanical labs and take the stairs to the 3rd floor to get to E5 via the overbridge. Feel free to stop on the overbridge to take a quick selfie if there’s a need to update your LinkedIn profile picture otherwise keep walking to enter into E5 on the 3rd floor. E5 is connected to E7 on every floor. If you are already out of coffee from the Tims in SCH, you can grab another one at the cafe on the 1st floor in E7 and hopefully stay alive and up in your lecture. From E7, you can enter E6 using the overbridge on the third floor. For your lunch and dinner, you can easily go out to your favourite shop in the plaza from E5, E6 or E7.

Now if you are looking for a library to get some “actual” work done, you can walk outside from E5 to DC building, or you can take a bit longer but indoor route where you cross the E5 overbridge and continue to get to DC 2nd floor from E3. DC has a couple of Tim Hortons, one of which is an express. You can also grab food from Bon Appetite on DC ground floor. To get to GF library, you can walk out from RCH instead of taking the outdoor route and keep yourself safe from the black ice.

Another indoor route that one might find useful in their day to day campus commute is getting to SLC. For the most part, you can take an indoor route to QNC and walk to the nearest SLC entrance from there. To get to QNC, you can go from E3 to 3rd floor EIT and enter Biology 1 and Biology 2 and finally take the overbridge from Biology 2nd floor to QNC 2nd floor. This route is also useful for students who take buses that usually run on Columbia street, as they can get to the bus stops on the west side of ring road by getting to STC from 2nd floor in Biology 1 building and walk outside to their nearest bus stop.

Lastly, by covering all these indoor routes, one should also take full benefit of the cafes and other eating services that come on their way. With a small amount of smart commute planning, you can enjoy a latte at Starbucks on one day and a coffee at Tims on another day.

Or you can choose from various coffee flavours offered at different cafes around the campus and not get tired of eating the same things every day. The tunnels and the overbridges might not be the fastest ways to get from point A to point B, but they definitely help you get your steps in and keep you warm and safe from the snow outside.

Saskatchewan vs. Canada

The Carbon Tax Legal Dispute

KIRSTEN EHlers

Senior Biomedical Engineer

Recently, I have been discussing Doug Ford’s condemnation of the carbon tax. However, this issue extends beyond the border of Ontario. Saskatchewan is arguing that the federally-imposed carbon tax is unconstitutional. The court challenges began on February 13th.

This case is not about the validity of climate change. Lawyer Mitch McAdam stated that “The government recognizes that climate change is a serious issue that has to be addressed and that effective measures are required to deal with greenhouse gas emissions”.

Instead, the province is concerned about whether or not Ottawa has the authority to impose on provincial jurisdiction of the carbon tax. The specific question asks if the entirety or part of the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act is unconstitutional.

Saskatchewan, a province with a large oil and energy sector, is being represented by lawyer Alan Jacobson. The province is requesting that the court rules that the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Act is unconstitutional and thus should be voided. They cite that the policy treats provinces unequally, instead of putting in place carbon policies which were needed for nearly a century. However, he believes that provided that Ottawa can prove this clause, the federal government has a much stronger case than Saskatchewan.

There are 16 interveners on the carbon tax case.

Indigenous groups including Alberta’s Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation intervened on behalf of the federal government saying that the carbon tax impacts the treaty rights of Indigenous peoples. The carbon tax is necessary to reduce the impact of climate on Indigenous peoples and territories. Thus, Canada is constitutionally obligated to impose the tax so that provinces comply.

Attorney generals of Ontario and new Brunswick argue that carbon emissions do not comply with the criteria of national concern. They also suggest an upsetting imbalance between the federal government and their provincial counterparts.

The United Conservative Party of Alberta argues with the sentiment of the federal government that carbon emissions are a national concern. However, they argue that the federal government’s expanded jurisdiction will impede Alberta’s attempts to reduce emissions on their own.

The Attorney General of British Columbia advocates on behalf of the Government of Canada. They argue that a federal carbon tax, B.C. would be at a competitive disadvantage because they have already made great lengths to reduce carbon emissions. B.C. C BC’s “no taxation without representation” principle. The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan argues that the carbon tax puts unnecessary strain on farmers who have already made great lengths to reduce carbon emissions.

SaskPower and SaskEnergy are concerned about the added costs of energy for consumers. Other interveners include the Canadian Public Health Association, Canadian Environmental Law Association and Environmental Defence Canada, International Emissions Trading Association, and Climate Justice.

The Ins of Waterloo Campus

So You Never Have To Go Out

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Carbon emissions threaten the “right to life, liberty, and security of the person”.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation argues against the carbon tax. They argue that the tax is ineffective and puts the affordability of energy at risk. Moreover, they insist the tax violates the not-so-original “no taxation without representation” principle.

The Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan argues that the carbon tax puts unnecessary strain on farmers who have already made great lengths to reduce carbon emissions.
Welcome, readers of the Iron Warrior, to this week’s issue. As you may recall, we started a new rotating column in the last issue called “From the desk of a co-op”, where Gabrielle talked about some things she did during her past work term to kill time when she had no work to do. So, in this week’s issue, I will be taking over the column to talk to you guys about some of my past co-op experiences and things that I did to kill time. To reiterate what Gabrielle said in the last issue, obviously this does not mean to waste time and resources, however, sometimes you find yourself sitting idle with absolutely no work to do. Here are a few things that were a part of my co-op experience, few things I did to enjoy my work more and occasionally kill time. Keep calm and read on.

I was working as a Product Verification Specialist for one term in Burlington. Now, I am an international student and I have never lived in another city except Waterloo. So, I obviously have to move to this city for my co-op and believe me, I was terrified. First of all, I did not find a place till the day before my work term started. So, I moved a day before and this left me with absolutely no time to explore the city. So, I go to bed at a reasonable hour, but because I was feeling so unprepared, I legit woke up every other hour that night and dreamt on loop that I had missed my bus! Ridiculous! I know! Naturally, I was not well rested for orientation, regardless. The store I was so excised for my first day because this was my first work term. It went well and after orientation, my supervisor took me and my co-worker out for lunch. When we returned, he introduced us to our Product Verification team. This may not sound as cool to you as it does to me, but I was the only female on the team. So, overall: I felt really happy and excited after my first day.

Okay, let me tell you about some of my job responsibilities, so you can better understand what I will be talking about next. My company had designed a new product and now it was the job of the team to perform functional and regression testing on the product, you know, the typical Quality Assurance (QA) stuff. In simple terms: I had to find ways to break the software and then collaborate with the developers to push out new firmware. To sum up: I had to feed to ask “sandwich or not?”, “bagel or not?”, “pet or not?” and similar questions. At this point, it should be clear what’s going on here, the reason this podcast is listened to at all. This isn’t a “History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps”-style search for truth. Nor, is it simply a Two Dudes Talking podcast, dependent on the listener’s interest in the Two Dudes.

Or in this case, of the One Dude. Jason Snell doesn’t reveal too much about his opinions on this podcast, although he has other podcasts with that purpose. Instead, he is focused on probing John Siracusa, for anyone unaware, is better known for the reviews he wrote for Ars Technica of each version of Apple’s MacOS OR X. These reviews, written between 1999 and 2014, sometimes ran for as long as 30000 words. He, in turn, is making an effort to engage the public in the “Accidental Tech Podcast”. That isn’t a Two Dudes Talking podcast... but a Three Dudes Talking podcast.

But to the topic of “Robot or Not?”; it is funny at times. However, it is perhaps more interesting as an illustration of what it means to be a geek. The podcast is at once pedantic and whimsical, simultaneously scientific and steeped in fiction. And while robots may seem to be an inherently unusual topic, the enthusiasm John Siracusa lends to the topic is comparable to other, often mundane, aspects of human life. Is geekness really defined by particular topics of conversation, or is it more of a state of mind, a style of presenting yourself, a sort of obsession with detail? Luckily for us, episode 137 of “Robot or Not?” focuses on a fictional character who makes me feel that way, I always get that the wrong way around, so it’s a good thing Siracusa’s words were there to set me straight while I was writing this.

Given the prior experience of the hosts, it is no surprise that “Robot or Not?” has good intro music, intro pictures that show the show cycles through different styles of intro music, which spices things up a little for binge listeners. Despite the thematic variability, there’s no mind blowing intro for any other podcast because the song is always dominated by the first seven words of this article.

“Robot or Not?” has the shortest episodes of any podcast I have listened to recently: Each one is less than 10 minutes long. However, it is worth noting that while podcasts such as “Accidental Tech Podcast”, “Hello Internet”, “Unmade Podcast” and the like last for hours, they only linger on a single topic for short periods of time. “Robot or Not?” is comparable to a single corner of “The Iron Warrior”’s columns of “Iron Warrior”. In fact “Robot or Not?” was partially spawned from Snell and Siracusa’s prior interactions in the “In compatible” podcast, a geeky panel show with multi-hour episodes.

“Robot or Not?” is episodes are released without additional material, so it’s laid back on the edge of my seat waiting for new releases. However I do sometimes binge listen, and other times find it a pleasant sandwiched between two other podcasts in my playlist.
Twitter: A Politician’s Best Friend?

Twitter has irreversibly changed the political landscape. Most notably, there is the rhetoric of Donald Trump. Doug Ford has some fun tweets to read too. However, this is not just a dilemma for conservative politicians.

On February 3rd, Liberal MP Adam Vaughan from Toronto tweeted: “Next he will go after young offenders & ‘free school’ in detention centres … Instead of playing whack-a-mole; Let’s just whack him.”

The tweet was inspired by Doug Ford’s statement that he was going to cut the full-day Kindergarten program. However, Adam Vaughan argued that the Kindergarten cut-back was a ploy to keep Ontarians distracted from the cut-backs to OSAP for university students.

After the tweet, Vaughan retweeted images of Doug Ford’s face on the moles of the popular Whack A Mole game. Moreover, the joke continued when Vaughan tweeted that a lawyer representing the moles of Ontario did not appreciate the comparison.

People got very upset that Vaughan was implying harm against the current Premier of Ontario. However, others argue that the tweet was funny. Surely, the backlash wouldn’t be a result of an average tweet. Maybe individuals should step back a take the joke. It’s not a big deal.

On the other hand, the tweet could be interpreted to incite violence against the premier. Whacking does mean harm. In fact, the definition states that it could lead to the killing of someone. Society is experiencing an upward trend of political correctness. That is a whole debate in itself. Meanwhile, politicians is transcending the legislature. Social media is a crucial platform to inform and communicate with voters.

The problem with twitter is that communication is instant. There is no need for comments to be screened before they posted. Some people like that. It gives insight into who politicians really are as opposed to the sentiments of their campaign coordinators. However, this tweet would have never been seen as an appropriate statement by an MP. And asking Ford to be ‘whacked’ isn’t exactly kind words. Maybe there’s no space for political correctness in politics. Maybe politicians, including influential ones should be allowed to say anything they want on-line. Even if it is offensive, the only thing they are destroying is their own careers.

In this context, the tweet doesn’t seem to be a big deal. It was a joke and Doug Ford isn’t necessarily the most well-liked individual in politics right now.

What if that comment was applied to another individual or a group of people? Is it perceived as a threat then? What if Adam Vaughan used A Duck Hunt shooting metaphor instead. (Duck hunt is another arcade game where players try to shoot ducks down from a wall). It’s a joke, but telling the public to shoot the Premier is way out of line.

I’m not saying that this tweet is wrong, or even right. What I’m saying is that there is a serious need for some rules to be made. What is appropriate to tweet on-line? Do we hold politicians to higher standards than ourselves? Is the intention more appropriate than the words themselves?

The point is that Twitter is changing the face of politics. 180 characters can lose or gain a vote for a politician. So what is really okay to tweet online?

The Anti-Vaxxer Movement and The Measles Outbreak

Have you heard? Measles is back! Measles is a highly contagious viral disease. The symptoms of measles include fever, cough, runny nose, and inflamed eyes. Small white spots form on the inside of the mouth and a flat red rash forms on the body. Complications related to measles can include pneumonia, inflammation of the brain, seizures, deafness, brain damage, and even death. Because measles is airborne and spreads by coughing and sneezing, there really is no prevention except for the measles vaccine. Once a person is infected, specific treatment is available. Symptoms are treated using antibiotics, rehydration solutions, and healthy foods.

In 1980, 2.6 million people died of measles. This number dropped to 73,000 in 2014. 2017 took a sharp turn as the rates of measles related deaths increased due to a decrease in immunization.

“Vaccine hesitancy” is a real thing. It refers to a delay in acceptance, or complete refusal of vaccines despite availability. The anti-vaccination movement began in France in 1763 and still continues today. In 1763, France banned inoculation because Gatti, the Italian Doctor who introduced inoculation in Paris did not properly quarantine the inoculated people, thereby risking the lives of many Parisians. This made sense for the time. In 1998, a British doctor released a research paper investigating the relationship between the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine, and autism. In 2011, the paper was found to be fraudulent but the hesitancy around the vaccine remained. Also in 1998, the “Green Our Vaccines” movement came into being. It was a public campaign to remove thimerosal, a compound used as a preservative in vaccines, and other toxins from vaccines. Despite there being no evidence of harmful side effects, the U.S. public health and medical organizations agreed to reduce or remove thimerosal from vaccines. Both these instances from 1998 are the basis for the Anti-Vaccination Movement today.

By 2006, measles was eliminated in the U.S. and there were no cases of measles transmitted within the U.S. In 2007, Jenny McCarthy, an actress, announced her son was diagnosed with autism, blaming it on vaccination. She became the face of the anti-vaccination movement. 2013 to 2015 saw a sudden spike in the number of people suffering from measles in the U.S. The majority of people who got measles had not been vaccinated. The first person to die from measles in 12 years passed away on July 2nd, 2015 in Washington.

Currently, there is a measles outbreak in British Columbia. This is directly linked to a family travelling to Vietnam, while the family’s three children had not been vaccinated against measles. In British Columbia, it is not mandatory to be vaccinated to attend public schools. In Ontario, Manitoba and New Brunswick, the vaccine is mandatory unless an exemption is issued.

In the U.S., more than 270 people across the country have been infected by measles. It is all being blamed on vaccine hesitancy. This is putting all those people in jeopardy who cannot be immunized, such as people who are allergic to the vaccine and newborn babies. These people depend on the herd immunity to stay protected from measles. When immunization rates fall, as has happened in the past few years, herd immunity is threatened leading to an increase in the number of new cases.

If you are unsure of your immunization status, check with your doctor. They may be able to pull your immunization records. If you are still uncertain, it is suggested to get a booster shot from your local health practitioner. Keep yourself safe from this epidemic, and keep others safe in the process.
Anxiety vs Panic

Know the Differences and How to Deal with Both

HAKUNA MATA

Today I will be mainly be talking about the differences between an anxiety attack and a panic attack. Often, people talk about them as if they are the same thing and use the terms interchangeably in a conversation. However, that is not the case as even though the symptoms for both anxiety and panic are kind of overlapping, they are not a mental health professional, however, would definitely like to share things that helped me deal with anxiety and panic attacks especially in the DSM-5. The term “anxiety attack” is used to describe a core feature of several illnesses identified under the headings of generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) etc.

Alright, Ms. Walia, why don’t you know that I might be able to pull this off. So, I practiced that incident I mentioned about 750 words and 26 other coops and got a great presentation in front of the entire staff and 26 other coops and got a great evaluation from my supervisor too. It was an amazing experience altogether! Which brings me back to the conclusion: anxiety and panic attacks are different based on the intensity and longevity of the symptoms, but with the correct combination of treatment i.e. coping mechanisms and therapy etc, it can be a lot easier to deal with. To my readers, I hope you enjoyed reading this article and had a good reading break. Also, if you have midterms coming up, I wish you good luck!

Opinion

7

Mr. Walia

I am sure you all know the benefits of teaching your body how to control your breathing which can significantly help, is to look at the clinical differences between these two. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder, 5th edition or DSM-5, acts as a standard and is used by mental health professionals to diagnose mental illnesses. According to VeryWell Mind, the DSM-5 uses the term “panic attack” to describe the hallmark symptoms associated with the condition known as panic disorder, which is categorized as an “anxiety disorder”. The term “anxiety attack” is not defined in the DSM-5, but “anxiety” is used to describe a core feature of several illnesses identified under the headings of generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) etc.

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Disorientation: The Best of the Best Pranks from 2019

All the engineering programs tried to claim E7 for themselves with banners.

Chemical engineering, true to its nature, made a packed bed reactor using only 6000 balloons.

A graveyard for hardware jobs. RIP.

www.robohub.com
There’s a Lot Going on in the CFES

Hi everyone, I hope all of you enjoyed your reading break. Over the reading break, the CFES has been jam-packed with preparations for the last two conferences of the school year.

The first on the list of conferences is the Conference on Sustainability in Engineering (CSE) taking place in Prince George, BC. By the time you read this, we’ll have taken our delegation of 5 to the conference to learn all about this year’s theme, “The Triple Bottom Line”. If you want to learn more about CSE and the other initiatives of the CFES, I recommend that check out this year’s conference website at cses.ca/
cse.

Next up on the list of CFES conferences is the Canadian Engineering Competition (CEC). CEC is coming to Waterloo from March 1st - March 4th. There are current-ly calls for volunteers out to help run the competition. They are looking for volunteers to help run events, translate, and set-up for the competition. It’s going to be an awesome event and it’s a great opportunity to meet engineers from across the country and expand your network. Everyone should take this opportunity to apply and use this link: http://bit.ly/CECVolunteer

Since we last spoke, we also took a group of ten delegates to the First Year Integration Conference put on by ESSCO and hosted by Laurentian University. Our delegates represented the University of Waterloo excellently and had the chance to network with students from all across Ontario. To find out more, I recommend that you look out for our report written by our delegates coming in the near future. Make sure to checkout the EngSoc website in the near future for the new conferences page where all of our applications and conference reports will be located.

If you have suggestions please feel free to come by CPH 1327 or drop me a line at vpcomm.b@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

Welcome back, I hope midterms went well! Now that we are in the latter half of the term I thought I would share some more upcoming events that I am excited about!

In the next few weeks, there will be an event for every taste. Whether you’re looking for a professional development activity that will let you add some valuable skills to your resume, to social events and community outreach activities, there is a wide breadth of topics to choose from.

On February 26, the second SolidWorks Workshop of the term will be happening. This is a great chance to spruce up some rusty skills or to add a new line to your resume for continuous round job applications! We will also be running a Soldiering Workshop the next week on March 7, if you are looking to gain some more hands-on skills. We will be running the second Resume Critiques event of the term on March 5. With all of your newfound skills, your resume is sure to need a boost and sharing it with upper years is a great way to make that happen.

If you are interested in making a difference in our community, we will be running our termly Blood Runs event on February 27. Join us as we take the trip to donate blood to Canadian Blood Services. If donating blood has you feeling philanthropic, you may also wish to join us on March 5 as we volunteer at the KW Food Bank!

Also, a quick reminder: March is National Engineering Month! This year, we will again be taking part in the Construction event being held at the Conestoga Mall. If you are interested in helping out with this, or if you want more information about any of the events listed above, check out our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/uvengsoc/.

February 6th and 12th have both had University closures and let us talk about what that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, we have to see a strict number of hours from the university closures and let us talk about what that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! First off, the class time is going to have to be made up. As engineering students, that means! 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Point Vs. Counterpoint
The University Should Have a Better Criteria To Pick Snow Days

LEAH KRISTUFEK
CHEMICAL

The University of Waterloo has had two snow days so far in 2019. While the university has had completely valid snow days in the past be it resolved that there are those of us who also appreciate the fact that our safety takes priority above the school’s rigid work culture.

Nick Manning, the associate vice-president of communication for UW told CBC News, “We’ve kind of are owned our own reputation as the place that never closes…” We’ve certainly heard from the community over recent years and have thought hard about the circumstances under which we need to make decisions about the operation of campus.” It’s that simple. The university takes these closures really seriously. If they are shutting down, it is because the safety of the staff and the students are at stake.

When the university is closed on snow days, it is posted to the university website around 7:00 am. It is best to have checked the weather at night to see if there are any warnings, and if there are, check the university website before heading on to the school the next day. Even if you don’t, I am sure someone else did and your social media would be flooded with snow-day related memes in the morning. Either way, be sure to stay informed.

Finally, going to Waterloo almost ascults a no-break culture. Especially if you are in engineering you have already kissed your summers goodbye and the two week breaks between classes are barely enough to resurface from the depth of the summer. So, when the university shuts down like this, unexpectedly, for a snow day, we are all a little happy on the inside. Sure, we will have to make up that time on another day but right now, this means another day to prepare for the midterm, or another day to submit an assignment or a lab report. Why would you curse the gods for giving you this wonderful opportunity?

The fact is that winter has been a little extreme this time around. It may seem like the university is declaring a snow-day for no reason at all, but the reason is our safety. So, take this time to catch up on studies, or another day to submit an assignment or a lab report. Why would you curse the gods for giving you this wonderful opportunity? The fact is that winter has been a little extreme this time around. It may seem like the university is declaring a snow-day for no reason at all, but the reason is our safety. So, take this time to catch up on studies, or another day to submit an assignment or a lab report. Why would you curse the gods for giving you this wonderful opportunity?

The iron warrior
Wednesday, February 20, 2019

SAMDHIRI SHARMA
3B CHEMICAL

I am sure that we are all aware of the heavy snowfall, wind chill, and the unfathomable event that has occurred, twice now, may I add, in all a week’s time. Yes, the university is closed, on the first day of the history of the University that itself down twice in a week. I realize that people are very divided about the whole scenario. Some believe that it was totally unnecessary. Snow has existed in Canada forever and the university has never closed before, so why start now? There are others who think that safety should be a priority and snow days really should be in place when weather conditions get intolerable. I agree with the latter.

Let’s take a look at the few snow days that have happened in the past, although to fair Waterloo has terrible timing with snow days. Starting with these past two days, February 6th and 12th. Environment Canada had issued storm warnings due to the freezing weather conditions and winter weather including freezing rain and snow conditions. One possible consequence was possible blackouts and downed electrical wires due to ice build up on wires. Several ice storms have completely shut down Toronto.

Now looking at the past April during exams several days were partially cancelled. Since cars were literally blown off the road by the winds and some Ontario highways were closed, these snow days were completely warranted. The university simply couldn’t win.

There was frustration from some students and staff that the university opted to open at noon on Monday, April 16th, but students were also frustrated about how their exams were being rescheduled and the implications for travel plans. School closures during exams are more important since skipping exams can make or break passing a course. Safety wise even though the snow re-opened at noon the police were still warning against anything but essential travel and Conestoga and Laurier remained closed. Prior to 2018 UW hadn’t closed in April since 2003.

The internet does make school closures difficult to find. But in the most recent weather-related school closures prior to April 2018 was February 2017. School closures are especially since disappointed 4th year students probably had to be forcibly led off campus.

Winter weather is dangerous, it should be taken seriously but that does not mean that the university should completely close school clearing it to light. If anything, more flexible policies for attendance on bad weather days are in order to avoid disruptions to busy schedules. Between inter-semester breaks, projects, classes and midterms students are busy enough without shifting deadlines due to snow days. Staying for midterms or finals only to have them cancelled and rescheduled results in undue stress.

Hopefully, it has now become apparent that as intelligent adults we can make our own decisions about travelling dangerous weather. Closing the university is a tool that should only be used in extreme circumstances. It is easy to become too cautious about safety and to worry too much about liability. However, in a dynamic university where the internet does make school closures difficult to find. But in the most recent weather-related school closures prior to April 2018 was February 2017. School closures are especially since disappointed 4th year students probably had to be forcibly led off campus.

I am sure that we are all aware of the heavy snowfall, wind chill, and the unfathomable event that has occurred, twice now, may I add, in all a week’s time. Yes, the university is closed, on the first day of the history of the University that itself down twice in a week. I realize that people are very divided about the whole scenario. Some believe that it was totally unnecessary. Snow has existed in Canada forever and the university has never closed before, so why start now? There are others who think that safety should be a priority and snow days really should be in place when weather conditions get intolerable. I agree with the latter.

So, does it not make sense to close the campus in case of severe weather? Would you really rather waddle on to campus like a penguin? I know I have seen all green negative forty-degree weather and it seems like it is worse than when the university did shut down, but the severe weather warnings are issued when various elements of the winter weather come together to make it severe. So, it may seem like it is not as bad, but really, if you step outside you might realize it is worse than you think, and not just for pedestrians. People who drive are also met with really bad driving conditions on these days, increasing the risk to their lives and everyone else on the road. Especially in a small city like ours, where the inner roads are sometimes left uncleared for the same reasons, it is very dangerous. Additionally, there is no visibility and there is ice on the road.

When the university shut down twice in a week, we all were very upset. What happens to our labs, interviews, tests, assignments, classes? The list could go on. While there were many questions, the snow day was in place for our own safety and I was a little bit relieved to be honest. While saluting those of you who would risk your lives to obtain the education and learning that the school promises, there are those of us who also appreciate the fact that our safety takes priority above the school’s rigid work culture.
Child Marriage is a Serious Issue in Many Parts of the World

Child marriage is a practice that, although illegal in many countries, is still prevalent in many places. This can be due to various reasons, including cultural beliefs, poverty, and the lack of an education system. Child brides are more likely to suffer from violence and may not have equal rights to education, health care, and other necessities. The issue is a global problem, and efforts are being made to raise awareness and reduce its occurrence.

In many countries, child marriage is a common practice, and the reasons behind it are often rooted in cultural and economic factors. Education is a crucial factor in reducing the prevalence of child marriage. It is important to spread awareness and educate people about the harmful effects of child marriage, as it can lead to physical and emotional harm to the girl and her family. Additionally, laws and policies need to be put in place to ensure that child marriage is not practiced.

It is crucial to work towards eradicating child marriage and promoting a better future for all girls. This can be achieved through education, awareness campaigns, and legal reforms. It is important to start these efforts now before it's too late.
“Have you found love in a hopeless place?”

“Love! What’s that! Change my mind at 519-722-LOVE.”
Akash Gill, 3B Computer

“IT’s a hopeless world. What do you think?”
Ami Patel, 3B Chemical

“Who’s asking?”
Farzeen Titina, 3B Computer

“Never been in love except every dog I have ever seen.”
Katherine Muir, Psychology

“I don’t know about love, but I found myself.”
Mit Patel, 3B Computer

“In ECE…”
Tyler Nincevic, 3B Computer

The Iron Crossword
Grey’s Anatomy

KIRSTEN EHLERS
1B BIOMEDICAL

IRON INQUISITION

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