

# THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

November 18, 2005  
Volume 13 Issue 45



## **Internet Buddies**

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*On the matter of Josephine  
Those who are too easily forgotten*

*CAUS loses nearly half its membership  
AU strikes out on its own*

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From Where I Sit  
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Dear Barb  
Canadian Fedwatch!  
AUSU This Month  
Chronicles of Cruiscin Lan*

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# THE VOICE MAGAZINE

November 18, 2005 - Volume 13, Issue 45

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We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org), and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

**Re: Nature Needs Tough Love, Volume 13, Issue 42 (Oct 28, 2005)**

I know it is a little late, but after reading through the archives when I returned from holidays I came across this article and was completely appalled. In my opinion, a person who says that our wilderness “generates little or no real value for our species” is not someone who is every bit as committed to preserving the wilderness as the next person.

The wilderness is of significant value to me, my family, residents of my province and I am sure residents of other provinces. It not only provides us with food, clothing, and shelter (the main necessities of life), but also crafting materials, and vast areas for recreation. It contributes a lot to our economy through tourism (to national parks, and wilderness, hunting and fishing camps), crafts, and building materials. The wilderness is not completely filled with “diseased and potentially violent animals” since many animals are used for consumption and are often more fearful of humans than we are of them. Those that are diseased and violent can be avoided. With a little research and knowledge, one can evade the “unsafe walking areas” or they can be made safer. As for the “myriad of varieties of poisonous fungi”, they are not dangerous unless you ingest them, so don’t.

When thinking of the “wilderness” one should not be conceited and think of our species alone. It does not pose “a serious impediment to our progress as a species” since it is needed by many species of both flora and fauna to which we depend on ourselves. In my opinion, the world would be a “safer” place without the attitudes of people like this.

Leanne Elson

*Thanks for writing, Leanne! The satirical nature of Mr. Undershaft's article may not have been immediately apparent to all readers, but I'd like to assure you and all Voice readers that The Voice is an environmentally friendly publication (we don't even use ink or paper!) and committed to environmental causes. You may notice that last week's issue contained a PSA on behalf of Greenpeace, and past issues have provided free space to the Word Wildlife Fund.*

*Satire, in the spirit of Mr. Swift's influential Modest Proposal, is a powerful persuasive tool when it is effectively written, but we believe that the best way to get a message across is through a variety of approaches. Your letter does an excellent job of articulating why our forests and natural spaces are precious and should be protected. Thank you for sharing your views with The Voice and allowing us this opportunity to clarify our stance on environmental and wildlife issues. Feedback like this helps us understand what issues are important to our readers.*

## THE VOICE

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## FROM MY PERSPECTIVE Internet Buddies

*Debbie Jabbour*



After I submitted my article last week (regarding my computer repair experiences), I received several emails from the Voice Editor. She offered numerous suggestions detailing how I could fix my computer problems. She also issued warnings that were in contrast to some of the Internet advice that I had received (e.g., don't use magnetized tools). Her advice was greatly appreciated, and really brought home for me the truthfulness of my observation about Internet communities. Previously, I stated, "if you post your tech questions, I've found that people are very willing to help - there is a wonderful tech community out there, and no

question is too small or too dumb" (Voice, November 9).

Over the years I've met and interacted with many Internet "buddies" who were more than willing to help me out, not just for tech support, but with whatever the problem might be. I've also met several buddies who were pretty horrible, and I've had two experiences that cost me dearly. I had a very creepy nightmare last night that reminded me of one of these individuals, who I'll call Mr. X. In my dream, I was forced to administer a deadly poison to others (including myself and innocent children), at the behest of Mr. X, reporting back to him each time my mission was complete. After involving a child who looked, disturbingly, like my grandson, I woke up, shivering in horror at what my unconscious mind had concocted for me while asleep. I was haunted by the dream throughout the day, thinking about what it could possibly mean. Last week, I watched an eye-opening program on Dateline about Internet predators. This no doubt formed the basis for my dream (according to research, dreams often process events that occurred up to a week previously). Recent events have also caused certain thoughts to be uppermost in my mind, thoughts about the negative things I've done in my life and the impact on my children.

These thoughts have been very distressing, of course, and I continually ask myself how I could have been so foolish as to trust Internet predators, not once but twice. I try to tell myself that I was vulnerable, inexperienced, and at an extremely low point in my life -- all these things are true. But looking back, it's still hard to comprehend how easily I was sucked in to the web these individuals weaved. I'm intelligent, world-wise, and not a fool. I love my children more than anything else in the world and want to protect them and keep them safe. Yet I was taken in, and most reprehensible of all -- I exposed my innocent children to monsters.

Through my university studies, I have come to embrace existential philosophy. It is the search for meaning in life; the process of turning human suffering into human achievement. Friedrich Nietzsche is foremost among those I admire. His quote, "that which does not kill us, makes us stronger" has become my lifeline, helping me re-frame many of my life experiences (even the most horrible) as having contributed to making me a stronger, better person. As a counsellor, I'm now able to take these experiences and use them to help others, providing proof that humans can overcome anything and survive.

What have I learned from Internet predators that makes me stronger? In thinking about why I was vulnerable in the first place, two things seem clear. I was very isolated emotionally, and Internet relationships offered an easy option. Emotional isolation can lead to risky behaviours in anyone. I know that I would not have made the mistakes I did had I not been in emotional turmoil. Coming out of a second abusive marriage, abandoned and struggling to provide for my daughters, unable to rely on friends and family, self-esteem in tatters, depressed and miserable -- I was a walking time bomb and ripe for exploitation. A state of such vulnerability is highly dangerous, and I'm not alone in my experience. Many women (and men) have made foolish decisions while in a similar state, both on the Internet and in-person. But the Internet makes it so much easier. When it is 2:00 a.m. and you can't sleep, that comforting buddy on some remote computer connection is always there for you, helping you through.

There are good friends out there, of course, and I met many of those during my down time; wonderful, supportive people to whom I am forever grateful. Never underestimate the importance of having a good,

trusted friend who can provide feedback. Now I'm better able to distinguish between the two, to recognize which relationships are healthy, and which are potentially damaging. I'd like to think that I'm smarter and wiser, and would never again fall victim to an Internet predator. But it would be foolish to make that assumption. This past summer I took a course in risk assessment as part of my Master of Counselling program. The professor told us a frightening tale about professionals working within the prison population. In helping us learn to assess psychopathic personalities (of which there are a high percentage in prison), she related a story about how several colleagues, experienced psychologists, had become involved romantically with the prisoners they were supposedly assessing and counselling. As part of the course, we were given details from Hare's Psychopathy Checklist (<http://www.hare.org/home/index.html>). I felt a chill run down my spine as I went through the items on the list, clearly recognizing my two Internet buddies.

So how can you protect yourself? First and foremost I think, is to know yourself and recognize your state of mind. If you are in a vulnerable condition, don't rush into any relationship. Don't be too quick to find comfort in words of support and encouragement from a stranger. This is easier said than done, of course. When you have been abused or hurt, it is natural to bond with those who provide succour. If at all possible, try to get the needed support and encouragement from other sources, such as friends, family and professionals. This can have a protective effect and provide a healthy balance so that your focus is not on a single individual. Don't isolate yourself. It was in my complete and utter isolation that I became particularly vulnerable. Diversify your friendships. Try to make friends in real life to balance the ones online. Try to get involved in other activities, spend time with your children, and don't neglect hobbies and things you enjoy.

Knowing yourself is particularly important if you are a compassionate caregiver type. Many women in abusive relationships are accustomed to putting the needs of others ahead of their own, making them very susceptible to an Internet buddy who is needy and makes her feel useful and wanted. It is not really surprising that the above-mentioned prison psychologists would fall victim to their clients, likely having personalities that drew them to men who appear to need rescuing. Everyone who is in a care-giving profession must learn to differentiate between the truly needy and the manipulators, and even the most experienced can be fooled. When I wonder how I could possibly have been sucked in a second time, I realize that it was my care-giving impulses that did me in. At the height of Mr. X's con he called me from the hospital, his mother at his side, telling me how much he needed me.

Know the warning signs of a potential predator (or psychopath) and listen to red flags that arise. Check things out. Psychopaths are accomplished liars who often make grandiose claims. Try to verify things if you can. This does not always protect you, however. My first Internet buddy's father was a respected and well-known artist, a nice man. He was a nice man with a dangerous psychopath for a son. Mr. X lived with his parents, also nice people, who seemed quite oblivious to the havoc wreaked online by their con-man son.

Most importantly, I think, is to ensure that you have a healthy life outside of the Internet. A life that is balanced, in which you spend good, quality time with your children and other loved ones. A life where you take care of yourself physically and emotionally will reduce your potential vulnerability. No doubt, there are many other ideas and suggestions that can be added to this list.

In contrast, I do have many wonderful Internet relationships. I belong to several forums where I have met interesting and supportive people. I still maintain a few long-time friendships from when I was going through my difficult times. I'm older and wiser, and as Nietzsche says, stronger. I've learned to exercise great care with Internet relationships. I try to take the best from these relationships. Although, I might wish it were otherwise, perhaps I needed to experience the worst to be able to truly value the best.

Although I don't deceive myself into thinking I am no longer vulnerable to a bad Internet relationship, I think I'm in a far more powerful position now because I have come to know myself much better. Knowing yourself means having a relationship with yourself. Another existential philosophy states that we must be able to stand alone before we can stand beside another; "before we can have any solid relationship with another, we must have a relationship with ourselves" (Corey, 2001). Education, too, is key. I know that my life has been permanently changed for the better through my university education. I have become truly empowered in the process. Learning existential philosophy has given me a new outlook on life events, both positive and negative.

As humans we need relationships with others, but we must recognize the difference between one that is neurotic and overly dependent, and one that enhances life for both parties. Internet relationships, by their distance nature, can become one-sided and dysfunctional. It is far easier to accept a particular personality descriptor of an individual we meet online when we don't have other criteria to balance the picture: the observed interactions with other people, the reactions of friends and family, the visual clues to behaviour, etc. All of those things that create a complete picture of the individual within his or her environment. So, an even greater degree of caution is needed.

Internet buddies can be wonderful. I continue to be astounded at the relationship-building possibilities of the world wide web. Although, I hope to never lose my inherent good faith in people, I will continue to approach these relationships with extreme caution. It is likely that my subconscious will continue to haunt me in my non-waking hours. I will always carry a burden of guilt for having allowed myself to be deceived, but I have no intention of providing any new material for the process!

Signs of a psychopath (taken from Hare's Psychopathy Checklist):

- Glibness, superficial charm. Smooth, engaging, charming, slick, never at a loss for words.
- Grandiose sense of self-worth. Grossly inflated view of one's abilities and self-worth, opinionated, cocky.
- Need for stimulation/proneness to boredom. Excessive need for excitement and stimulation, taking chances, risky activities. Bore easily and fail to finish tasks to completion.
- Pathological lying. Can be moderate or high, ranging from cunning, crafty, sly and clever to highly deceptive, unscrupulous, manipulative and dishonest.
- Conning/manipulative. Deceit and deception used to cheat, con or defraud others, with a lack of concern for consequences to others.
- Lack of remorse or guilt. No feelings of concern for the pain and suffering of victims, disdain for victims, unconcerned, coldhearted and unemphatic.
- Shallow affect. Emotional poverty, limited depth of feelings (regardless of surface show).
- Callous/lack of empathy. Lack of feelings towards people in general, cold, inconsiderate, tactless.
- Parasitic lifestyle. Intentional manipulative and exploitative financial dependence on others. Lack of motivation and inability to take personal responsibility.
- Poor behavioural control. Irritability, impatience, threats, aggression, verbal abuse, lack of temper control, acting hastily.
- Promiscuous sexual behaviour. Brief, superficial relations, numerous affairs and indiscriminate sexual partners, great pride in discussing sexual exploits.
- Early behaviour problems. Behaviours prior to age 13, including lying, theft, vandalism, bullying, running away from home, cheating.
- Lack of realistic, long-term goals. Inability to develop and execute long-term plans and goals, aimless existence, lacking direction in life.
- Impulsivity. Lack of reflection or planning, inability to resist temptation, foolhardy, rash, unpredictable, reckless, without considering the consequences.
- Irresponsibility. Repeated failure to honour commitments and obligations.
- Failure to accept responsibility for own actions. Denial of personal responsibility, absence of dutifulness, effort to manipulate others through denial.
- Many short-term marital (or serious) relationships. Lack of commitment to a long-term relationship, undependable.
- Juvenile delinquency. Early behaviour problems before age 13, aggression, crimes.
- Revocation of conditional release. Violation of probation or parole (if arrested).
- Criminal versatility. Able to commit a diversity of types of criminal offenses, taking great pride in getting away with crimes.

#### Sources for additional information

The Friedrich Nietzsche Society -- <http://www.fns.org.uk/index.htm>.

The Psychopathy Checklist --

[http://www.swin.edu.au/victims/resources/assessment/personality/psychopathy\\_checklist.html](http://www.swin.edu.au/victims/resources/assessment/personality/psychopathy_checklist.html)

Antisocial Personality, Sociopathy, and Psychopathy --

[http://www.angelfire.com/zine2/narcissism/psychopathy\\_checklist.html](http://www.angelfire.com/zine2/narcissism/psychopathy_checklist.html)

#### Reference

Corey, G. (2001). Theory and practice of counselling and psychotherapy. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.

## On The Matter of Josephine

By Carole E Trainor



It was on a Wednesday when we got the news that Josephine had died. We were immediately told where the body was being laid out so we could attend the communal gathering. We were reminded by the school principal that our attendance was mandatory, and so, we, the "outside" teachers of The John C. Yesno School would (on a Thursday, I believe)

collectively enter the tiny church in Eabametoong and convey our deepest of sympathies to the family and friends of Josephine.

We would sit down and wait for the evening's tragic events to begin, but it seemed they never really did. We were needed, mostly, for the purpose of sitting. The church was small and even the pews were covered in the same powdery blue paint (I seem to recall) that covered the walls. Josephine was laid out no more than fifteen to twenty feet away from where we were seated. Her face and body was on intimate display, even for those of us in mandatory attendance.

There were no real instructions as to what we, the white teachers were expected to do. So mostly, we just sat there, kept our knees together, folded our hands on our laps, and tried not to stare too much at Josephine.

Seventeen years of living, maybe, or perhaps it was only sixteen. Nobody but her own people seemed to know for sure, and, of course, none among us (from the outside) dared to ask. Girls the same age as Josephine sometimes died in these isolated Aboriginal communities. Sometimes it was without apparent reason or cause. That's as much as I'm willing to say on the matter.

We were all plenty sorry for the death of Josephine, and certainly, some of us believed we ought to have done more to convey our shock or sympathy or something. This was a young girl's life, after all (no small matter). But not much would come of it. We were, after all, a rather strange, transient kind of presence (however necessary) here in the land of the Indian. So, in time, we all went back to teaching for our pay and minding the necessary silences.

The day I was to leave the land where Josephine was laid to rest, I remember thinking to myself how odd a thing it is that children should appear, even in death, beautiful. How stubbornly their muscle clings to the bone so as to give the effect that one has but laid her precious head to a pillow for a moment's rest, and that soon, perhaps, the very minute the springtime geese arrive back to these skies, the child will jump onto her feet, and with the rest of them, come running.



# Alberta student lobbying group loses almost half its members

## Departure of Athabasca University could be good for unity of Council of Alberta University Students: CAUS executive

By Natalie Climenhaga

*The Gateway (University of Alberta)*

EDMONTON (CUP) -- As the struggle to have student voices represented in Alberta continues, the province's main student lobbying body has become 36,000 members smaller.

The Council of Alberta University Students, which lobbies on key post-secondary issues, has, until recently, represented 80 000 students. But with the departure of one of its member universities, its student membership has nearly halved.

The Athabasca University Students' Union ceased to be a part of CAUS on Nov. 1, leaving three remaining students' unions, those of the University of Alberta, University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge, to continue their lobbying efforts.

However, according to Samantha Power, CAUS Vice-Chair and U of A Students' Union VP External, AUSU's departure may be for the best.

"It could actually be a benefit for both organizations that they decided to leave [CAUS]," Power said.

CAUS attempts to operate on a basis of consensus in order to present a unified front when dealing with the provincial government, Power explained. But Athabasca University, an online institution created by the government of Alberta in 1970 to focus on distance education, had a significantly different mandate than other CAUS members, sparking the basis for separation.

Power explained that AUSU's focus on ensuring that the proper quality standards were set up for distance education wasn't a priority for the three other universities in the province that are still members of CAUS, as they are focused primarily on affordability and accessibility of education.

"[The AUSU] can now focus on what's best for their students and [the remaining members of CAUS] can focus on what's best for our students based on our different situations," said Power.

"In the end, we might come to a better understanding and achievement of our goals because of the separation."

Tamra Ross-Low, the AUSU's communications coordinator, further explained that, as the first Canadian university accredited in the U.S., AU has become a pioneer in its field and has an obligation to raise the profile of distance education to a viable postsecondary alternative.

"A lot of people still confuse distance education with what they call correspondence school in the U.S., and it's not the same thing," Low said, stressing that a distance education can be just as academically challenging as on-campus learning.

In addition to the recent American accreditation, an exponential growth rate has placed strains on AU, creating internal issues that are foreign to other members of CAUS, Low explained.

"AU has been maintaining 10 per cent growth for about four years now, which is absolutely gargantuan," Low said, explaining that most universities deal with a one per cent growth rate.

"[Leaving CAUS is] just a matter of limited resources and an awful lot to do," Low further explained.

Despite the separation, Low said that AUSU is very receptive to the idea of working alongside CAUS members in the future on issues such as lower tuition, better student loan programs and better funding for universities.

"A lot of the things that CAUS is lobbying for benefit everybody," Low said. "[AUSU] fully expect[s] to be supporting those initiatives [sic] as CAUS undertakes them."



Perhaps it feels too early for a Christmas article, but by the time this article is published there will be only 38 days until Christmas. And all the signs are here. Hallowe'en is barely over and the malls are drenched in Christmas decor. I heard Christmas carols in the grocery store yesterday, and the magazines and newspapers are full of early sale dates and great gift ideas. We can complain about Santa's capitalist conspiracy later, but right now, if you choose to participate, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

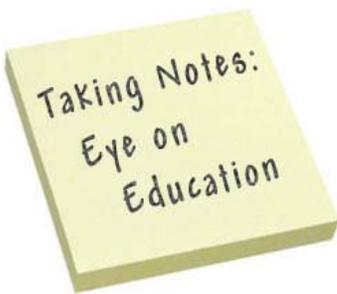
Last year was a particularly busy yuletide season for me, and I just about pulled a bah-hum-bug and decided to forget the whole thing. I'd written exams in the middle of December, and didn't start shopping until after they were done. I thought that I could just whip through the mall, find a few thoughtful purchases and be on my merry way. But, as I'm sure you know, malls are mean and nasty places in December. 'Tis the season for stealing parking spots and being a big hurry. I couldn't find any of the fabulous ideas I'd planed to get everyone and spent two days trying to get Jingle Bells out of my head. I showed up at my parents' house in time and bearing gifts, but barely.

So, not this year. I won't do it. I won't stress over gifts no one really needs. I won't show up tired and sick of the whole season. And I won't drag the whole holiday down with cynicism or negativity. I'll need to make some changes. First of all, I won't write exams so close to Christmas -- the option to decide this clearly being one of the perks to distance education. And I've already started shopping. Each time I see something I know a loved one would like, I snatch it up and stuff it under my bed. I only hope I don't forget and find the hidden gifts come March.

I used to hate this person, the one who's done their shopping by August and happily sipping Christmas cheer while the rest of us fight our way through the blizzard of shoppers. They say obnoxious things like "Christmas comes at the same time each year. It really shouldn't sneak up on you." They tell you to enjoy visiting with friends and family instead of racing around from store to store. They remind you to give to people who really need it. They encourage you to keep it simple. In general, they annoy you with their jolly over-organization.

But that was before I realized what a chore the whole thing was, and how this contradicts the entire meaning of holiday season. At some point, I realized all the clichés are true. It's the gifts that can't be wrapped that really matter. It's the time spent as friends and family, or donating to a charity that will be truly memorable. It's recognizing that Christmas really can be a time to be merry. It's a choice. So, in the meantime, I've got a stash of gifts waiting to be wrapped, Christmas cards to send and 38 days to get it all done.

This column focuses on issues affecting post-secondary students. Readers are encouraged to submit suggestions for topics they are concerned about, or personal experiences with courses or university situations other students should know about. Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org), attn: Debbie Jabbour



## GOOGLE ENABLES RESEARCH

*Debbie Jabbour*

University students will soon have another welcome tool in their online research capabilities. Google and Amazon.com have announced that they are developing systems that will allow consumers to purchase online access to any page, section or chapter of a book. Portions of the book can be downloaded for use, at a suggested cost of about 5 cents a page. The development may clear up some lingering online copyright issues. Some publisher/author groups have charged that Google's book-related search engine is violating copyrights by making digital copies of books available for use. A per-page download charge would allow consumer access to books while compensating publishers and authors.

For many students, Google is the search tool of choice. The Google Print feature already offers free online access to full content of books no longer under copyright, and Google scholar enables quick online journal searches. Expanding these features to offer digital copies of newer copyrighted publications adds to the unlimited potential of online research.

### References

Google Print (Book Search): <http://www.google.ca/help/features.html#book>

Google Scholar: <http://scholar.google.com/>

Wyatt, E. (2005). Don't want the whole book? No problem: Google, Amazon.com are developing systems to sell you words by the chapter and verse. New York Times News Service. The Edmonton Journal, November 5, F12.



## *British Man Allegedly Cured of AIDS Mandy Gardner*

Is this a turning point in the fight against the AIDS virus? Medical researchers are too stunned to comment as 25-year-old Andrew Stimpson of the United Kingdom claims to have "beat HIV." He was tested several times in August of 2002 and doctors confirmed that he was HIV positive. However, a new round of testing in December 2003 and March 2004 indicates the opposite. The virus had disappeared from Stimpson's body.

Stimpson says that after discovering his illness, he started a healthy regime that included taking vitamins and diet supplements. He was hoping to keep from developing full-blown AIDS. He didn't expect to be completely healthy ever again, but the subsequent tests a year after his diagnosis proved even more shocking than the first. Stimpson stated, "I couldn't understand how anyone could cure themselves of HIV ... I thought it had to be wrong because no one can recover from HIV, it just

doesn't happen."

So far, medical science is completely baffled by this unique case. Researchers want to investigate at length before they confirm that HIV may not be deadly to everyone. They also hope that Stimpson's case will shed some much-needed light on the worldwide fight against HIV. A spokeswoman for the British NHS (National Health Service) said of Stimpson's claim, "It is potentially a fantastic thing."

### Reference

British Man 'beats' HIV: A British man has allegedly become the first person in the world to beat HIV (2005, November 14). Retrieved from <http://www.itn.co.uk/news/832514.html>



### The Whole Gomery Thing

In a nutshell, in case you haven't been following the news, here's the whole thing on the Liberal scandal and Judge Gomery's report.

Back in 1995, Quebec was going to hold a referendum on whether they should separate or not. Naturally, the federal Liberal's didn't take too kindly to the idea, especially Jean Chrétien, the Prime Minister at the time.

So what he did was he set up a sponsorship program, run directly under the authority of the Prime Minister's office, to basically purchase advertising and convince the people of Quebec that they should remain a part of Canada. As it has turned out, Chrétien set up the program with very little oversight or control over what happened within it.

In Quebec, how it played out was that some unscrupulous people simply couldn't resist the temptation of a lot of taxpayers' money. Advertising agencies with connections to those handing out the money got paid a lot of cash for very little work. Some of the agencies actually got the money by turning around and giving a chunk of it straight back to the Liberal Party of Quebec for later election campaigns, or even directly to the political operatives that helped control the budget of the sponsorship program.

Then the Auditor General of Canada came in and took a look at what was going on. That report opened up the whole scandal to further investigation. When Paul Martin was elected, he set up an independent investigation with Justice Gomery as the head. The goal of investigating the whole affair was to see if there was any wrongdoing, and if so, who the likely suspects were.

Gomery's report came out and essentially held Paul Martin blameless, but put Jean Chrétien on the spot for starting up a secretive program without proper oversight or controls. The report also named a few people such as Alfonso Gagliano, as the people actually taking our money (Canada. Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, 2005).

With the report, the Liberals added a bunch of people to a court case, suing them in the name of the Canadian government (Canada. Public Works and Government Services, 2005). The Conservatives repeated their call for an election right now, backed by the Bloc Québécois. The NDP party, on the other hand, attempted to use the situation to force the Liberals into a deal that ensured private health care would not be allowed in Canada. Since there seems to be a common idea that any political party that forces a Christmas election will get punished in the polls, the Liberals called the NDP's bluff, and things have proceeded on pretty much as usual.

What's left to happen? The Liberal government could still be brought down if any of the opposition parties call for a motion of non-confidence and all three opposition parties support the motion. The Conservatives and Bloc Québécois have already announced they won't be bringing forward such a motion, leaving it to the NDP. Personally, I think this is a dumb move on the part of the Bloc and the Conservatives, as if NDP voters are disaffected by them calling a Christmas election, they still probably wouldn't turn to the Conservatives, which would likely mean simply a gain for the Liberals.

That second half of the investigation will be detailing measures that can be taken to ensure that such a scandal does not happen again. At that point, all the government needs to do is to point out that they have already made many of the changes and they will be able to use Gomery's report as a vindication of their current practices.

Of course, if you're dead set against the Liberals, the question of how impartial Justice Gomery really was will always remain. Justice Gomery may well have exonerated the man who appointed him, but opponents will question whether that is because the independent investigation determined that there was no evidence, or whether the investigation was not as independent as it should have been.

#### References

Canada. Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities (2005). *Who is responsible? Phase I report*. Retrieved from <http://www.gomery.ca/en/index.asp>.

Canada. Public Works and Government Services (2005, November 1). *New names added to the claim for the recovery of funds*. Retrieved from <http://news.gc.ca/cfmx/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=179829>

### Liberal Goodie Bag includes Distance Learning

On November 14, the Liberal government has once again seen the election approaching, and so quickly offered up a package of increased services to try and convince people that they really are the ones that need to stay in power.

In that goodie bag, the Honourable Minister of Finance, Ralph Goodale, delivered his Economic Update and mini-budget. One of the things he specifically mentioned was a promise of one billion dollars over the next two years "to support cutting-edge innovation in education – smart classrooms, networked laboratories, interactive libraries and distance learning, just to name a few examples." (Canada. Department of Finance, 2005)

While I put no faith in promises made under the threat of an election, it is notable in that distance learning can be seen to be finally getting some federal attention. Even if an election occurs, and even if the Liberals get voted out, the fact that it was mentioned in a Finance Minister's speech means that any government in power will have to give some sort of notice to it. The time may not be terribly far off when the government actually realizes that, unlike traditional post-secondary education, distance learning can be looked upon as a national concern. As such, it should receive the type of budget supports suitable for national organizations.

I can dream, can't I?

#### Reference

Canada. Department of Finance (2005, November 14). Presentation by the Honourable Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P. Retrieved from <http://www.fin.gc.ca/ec2005/speech/speeche.html>.

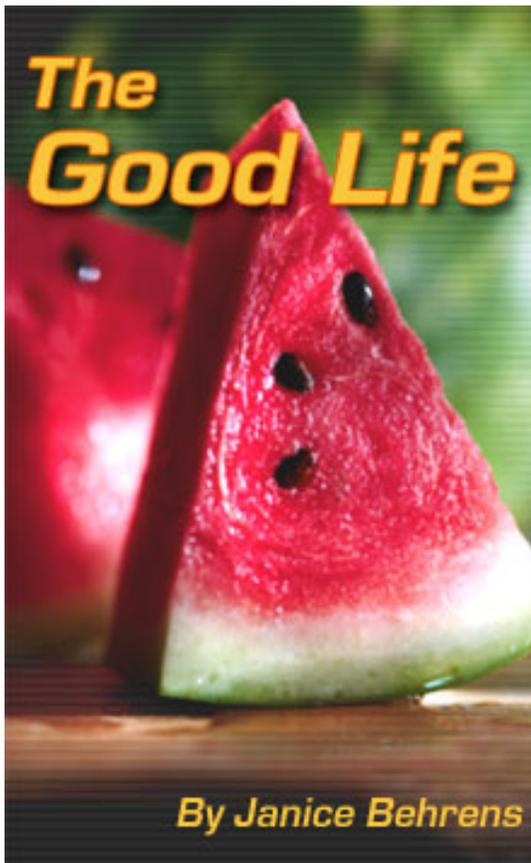
### Provincial Goodie Bag also includes Distance Learning?

Back in Alberta, the Department of Advanced Education held a forum at the beginning of November entitled "A Learning Alberta.". The forum closed with a call to action, not just on the part of the institutions, but also on the part of the government. (Alberta Advanced Education, 2005). Notable in this forum is that a number of key themes, which emerged in the discussions that followed the speeches. Notable for us at AUSU is the idea of "expanding capacity, not just with additional space but also through expanded use of technology." If there was ever a place where AU could step in with its hand out, both in terms of funding and expertise devoted to our rather unique problems and situation, this is it.

This is an exciting time to be a part of distance learning. Those of us here today may be on the vanguard of a generation that stops seeing distance education as simply correspondence school, and recognizes it for the excellence it promotes in students and educators alike. When politicians of all stripes seem to wake-up and "get it," the opportunities this will present to us are sizable indeed.

#### Reference

Alberta Advanced Education (2005, November 2). Learning Forum closes with commitment to action: Hancock pledges to move forward on three fronts. Retrieved from <http://www.advancededucation.gov.ab.ca/news/2005/November/nr-LearningForumCloses.asp>.



## In Praise of Paper

It's one of the most commonplace materials in our society. Everyday we use it for a myriad of purposes, usually without giving it a moment's attention. When it has served its purpose, we simply discard it into the nearest filing cabinet, recycling bin, or garbage can. And yet, as Paul Jackson and Vivien Frank point out in their book *Make it with Paper*, paper is one of humanity's most important inventions. In its more exquisitely crafted forms, it can also be a source of visual beauty and tactile pleasure, and is a cheap, versatile and readily available material for all manner of arts and crafts.

As I mentioned in an earlier column, sending and receiving handwritten correspondence from friends and family is a great source of personal pleasure, something for which cold, impersonal e-mail is simply no substitute. For too many of us, the only tangible objects that find their way through our mail slots are bills, advertising materials, and the occasional hastily scrawled postcard. Too often, the type written messages and blinking computer icons we receive from utility companies and financial institutions cause us aggravation and add to the pace of our already frenetic days. It is a delicious contrast then, to spend an hour or more writing a letter to a favourite aunt to tell her what has been going on in your life. Or (as I recently did) make a pot of Chinese black tea and read a marvellously long letter from a

good friend. A letter detailing the events of her life since she relocated to Manhattan.

As Jackson and Frank explain, it is the tremendous range of weights, textures and colours that makes paper an ideal material for arts and crafts. Every Thursday afternoon, one of the mothers from my daughter's grade three class comes into the school and teaches the children how to make exquisite origami creations. She happens to be a painter and sculptor specializing in traditional Japanese art forms. Each week my daughter comes home with a delicate, jewel-coloured creation such as a dragon, horse or beetle. Besides this, my daughter's room is decorated with papier-mâché animals and masks. A crepe-paper reproduction of the solar system is suspended from her ceiling.

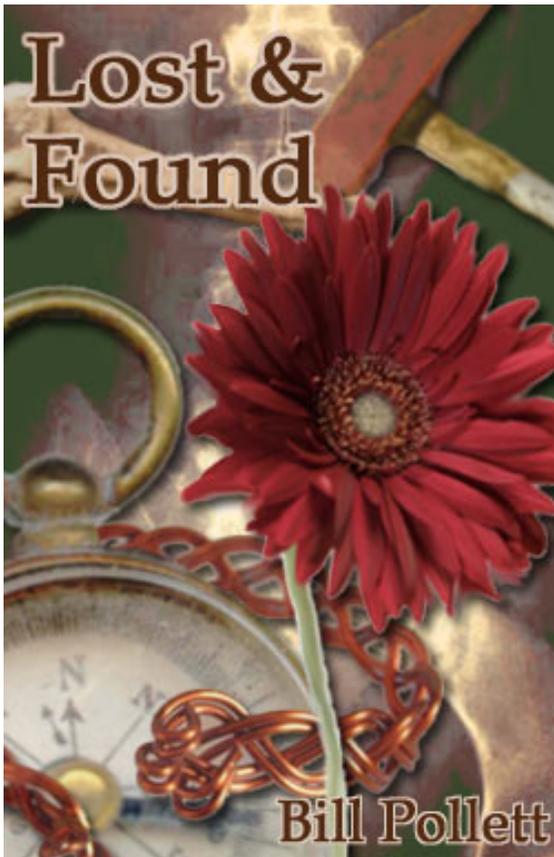
One of my very favourite shops anywhere is *Paper-Ya* on Vancouver's Granville Island. They carry a vast array of paper and paper-related treasures from all over creation that incorporate natural plant dyes and natural fibres. Some of the textures and designs include banana leaf, bird's nest, coconut leaf, and papyrus. One of their papers really has to be seen to be believed. It includes such things as cucumber and beet slices, rice hulls and hyacinth stems. You can check it out yourself at <http://www.paper-ya.com/>.

There is, however, no need to spend a lot of money to have fine handmade paper. A few years ago, I took a papermaking class at my local community centre. With an investment of a few dollars in mesh screens, I began making homemade paper. The first few attempts were a bit crumbly and fragile. But gradually, by trial and error, the finished product began to look better and hold together well. One of the best things about making paper yourself is your opportunity to experiment. Everything from wildflowers to gold thread to dryer lint has made it into my writing materials!

I truly believe that taking the time to appreciate the often over-looked beauty and small luxuries that surround us is one aspect of living a rich and enjoyable life. Paying attention to the varieties and potential of an everyday material, such as paper, is a good place to begin.

### Reference

Jackson, P. and Frank, V. (1992). *Make it with paper: the complete guide to origami and papercraft*. London: Grange Books.



## The Web of Bones

The foot bone's connected to the leg bone. The leg bone's connected to the knee bone. The knee bone's connected to the thigh bone. The thigh bone's connected to the back bone. The back bone's connected to the neck bone. The neck bone's connected to the head bone. Your head bone's connected to my shoulder. My shoulder's connected to my arm bone. My arm bone's connected to my wrist bone. My wrist bone's connected to my fingers. My fingers are connected to the car wheel. The car wheel's connected to the Volvo. The Volvo's connected to the pavement. The pavement's connected to the highway. The highway's connected to the back roads. The back roads are connected to your home town. Your home town's connected to your father. Your father's connected to your mother. Your mother's connected to your values. Your values are connected to your courage. Your courage is connected to your energy. Your energy is connected to your journey. Your journey is connected to your future. Your future is connected to your present. Your present is connected to your past. Your past is connected to your memory. Your memory is connected to your childhood. Your childhood is connected to your old age. Your old age is connected to your mortality. Your mortality is connected to your humanity. Your humanity is connected to your ambition. Your ambition is connected to your imagination. Your imagination is connected to your demons. Your demons are connected to your

angels. Your angels are connected to the heavens. The heavens are connected to the oceans. The oceans are connected to the coast lines. The coast lines are connected to the forests. The forests are connected to the great web. The great web is connected to the animals. The animals are connected to the grasslands. The grasslands are connected to the soil. The soil is connected to the graveyard. The graveyard is connected to the flowers. The flowers are connected to romance. Romance is connected to longing. Longing is connected to the flesh. The flesh is connected to the senses. The senses are connected to touching. Touching is connected to the fingers. The fingers are connected to the wrist bones. The wrist bones are connected to the arm bones. The arm bones are connected to the shoulder. The shoulder is connected to the head. The head is connected to the world.

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## AUSU THIS MONTH



### "A Learning Alberta"

Recently, the Alberta Government announced a comprehensive review of the Alberta post-secondary education system. Many discussion documents were placed online, and all stakeholders were invited to respond and make suggestions on how the post-secondary system can be improved. The students of the four universities of Alberta have responded through a document drafted by CAUS -- the Council of Alberta University Students --, which represents the students' unions of all four institutions. Additionally, AUSU has drafted its own response, specifically addressing the needs of

the diverse AU student body. You can read our response by downloading the PDF file from the link on the front page of the AUSU web site

### AUSU Course Evaluations

Would you like to know what your fellow students have thought of an AU course? If so, you are not alone. Many students find the input of their peers invaluable when selecting courses or a program of study. AU students may not have cafeterias and hallways in which to share this knowledge, but AUSU has provided an alternative: AUSU Course and Program Evaluation surveys. Accessible through the "Course Evaluations" link on the right side of the top bar of AUSU.org, these surveys ask a series of questions about AUSU courses and programs. Each student may rate each course or program only once, to ensure the validity of the results, so you must be logged in to access a survey form. Anyone, however, may view the results. If you haven't already, please rate some courses you have taken so that others may benefit from your experience. Note: these surveys are not the same as the ones that AU distributes with their course manuals. No AU staff or faculty member has access to the AUSU website, nor can they determine who has filled out a survey. Your anonymity is assured.

### AUSU Discussion Forums and Chat

Looking for a way to interact with fellow students? Check out the AUSU discussion forums and chatroom, accessible through the top menu bar of AUSU.org. The forums contain many sections to address a wide variety of student interests. You'll find the most students in the General Student Chat section, but you may also wish to use one of the province or city-specific forums to speak with AU students in your local area.

### AUSU Needs Volunteer Mentors

AUSU needs volunteer mentors to help new students adjust to AU and distance education. If you're an experienced AU student interested in being matched to a new student, please email [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org) for an application form. The mentor program is designed to help new students succeed with distance learning. If you're a new student and would like to be matched to one of our mentors please fill out the application form at this address: <http://www.ausu.org/services/mentorsforms.php>

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## THE THIRD ANNUAL VOICE MAGAZINE WRITING CONTEST!

**\$1000 in scholarships to be awarded  
\$500 each in the fiction and non-fiction  
categories**

**Write for *The Voice* and win money for  
your education.**

The Voice is launching its third annual writing contest, with categories for both **fiction** and **non-fiction**.

**Non-Fiction:** In 1500 words or less, write about any issue affecting the environment. You may write about issues in your local area, or global ones. You may focus on the human aspects of environmental change, or the impact on the earth. Feel free to use research or statistics in your article [with proper citations], or write a creative opinion piece.

**Fiction:** Free form - write a 1500 word or less fiction submission in any genre or any format. Short stories, poetry, a scene from a play, even a comic. Be creative!

Please read the contest rules and regulations and submission guidelines very carefully to ensure you are not disqualified. It's free to enter. **The length limits are firm and all entries that go beyond these limits will be disqualified.** Good luck!

### Rules and Regulations:

- Entrants must be AU students. Student status will be confirmed with the AU registrar. Please ensure that the registrar has your current address and contact information.
- Winning entries will be published in The Voice. The Voice reserves the right to print non-winning entries at a rate of remuneration in accordance with current Voice freelance submission rates. The Voice may use portions of non winning non-fiction entries in a composite about students perspectives on the environment. No remuneration will be provided for such use.
- All decisions regarding this contest and the selection of winners remain with the judging panel and are final.
- AU, AUSU, and Voice staff and AUSU Council members are not eligible for the contest.
- Entries will be judged by a panel to be selected by the Voice Editor, and this panel may include: AU students, AU tutors, and/or AUSU council members. The panel will include at least 3 members.
- The Voice Editor will collect articles and oversee the judging, but will not be a judge.
- Entries must be original works which have not been printed or published elsewhere, and must not be course assignment papers or derivatives of.
- Entries must not contain any information that would make the identity of the author evident to judges. To ensure fairness, all entries will be forwarded to the judging panel with a reference number attached, but no personally identifying information will be forwarded. The Voice Editor will keep the identity of the authors private until the contest closes. The Voice editor will keep a record of the authors of submissions, and will be the sole owner of this list.
- Entries will not be edited for grammar, spelling, or content, although The Voice Editor may black out any personally identifying information contained within the submission. Otherwise, entries will be forwarded to the judging panel, as is, with the exception that all entries will be converted to use the same file format, margins, font size and font style to ensure that all entries are equally readable.
- **The deadline for submissions in both categories will be December 20, 2005. The winner will be announced by February 15, 2006. The Voice reserves the right to extend either deadline if necessary.**
- One grand prize winner will be selected in both the fiction and non-fiction categories. If no entries are received in one of the categories, the prize money will be returned to the Voice scholarship budget. Prizes will be awarded in the form of a cheque, payable in Canadian funds.

- The Voice reserves the right to add additional, secondary prizes.
- The Voice is not responsible for lost emails. The Voice editor will confirm receipt of all entries by email. Please follow up if you do not receive a reply in two business days.
- All entrants agree to allow their name and city of residence to be printed, along with their submission, should it be selected as a winning entry. No further remuneration - beyond the contest prize - will be paid to the contest winner when their entry is printed.
- Entrants will be asked to sign a standard Release and Indemnity form; each prize winner agrees to release the Sponsor and its agents from any liability in connection with the prizes awarded in this contest.
- Any entrant found to be tampering with the contest results, or attempting to influence any of the judging members, or using any forums or other public communications media to advise others of which entry is theirs will be disqualified; or if The Voice editor determines, at her sole discretion, that any other form of tampering has been attempted, that entrant will be disqualified.
- No preference will be given to regular Voice writers. Entries will not identify the writer as a regular Voice contributor when sent to the judging panel.
- Where applicable, this contest is subject to all federal, provincial and municipal laws. Contest void where prohibited.

### **Submission Guidelines:**

- Your submission must be an electronic file attached to an email. Submissions sent as the body of an email will not be accepted. Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) if you require instructions on how to attach a file to an email.
- Submissions should be in Microsoft Word format [.doc], rich text format [.rtf] or plain text format [.txt]. If you use a Word Processor other than Word or work on a Mac computer, you can save a file in one of these alternate formats using the 'save as' function and selecting the desired format on the save menu. Contact The Voice editor if you require assistance in formatting your submission. Users of older Macs may have to send entries in HTML format.
- Each entrant may submit one entry to each of the two categories
- All entries must be under 1500 words due to judging time constraints. Length will be determined by the Word Count feature in Microsoft Word. Your References and Citations section will not be included in the word count. References should be formatted consistently according to a standardized publishing style guide, such as the American Psychological Association (APA) or the MLA press style.
- Entries should not include unnecessary formatting such as drop caps, graphics [unless the graphic is integral to the work], or unusual fonts. Entries must be text - scans of hand written or typed documents will not be accepted.
- The email should include the following information: Your full name, AU student ID number, email address, telephone number, mailing address, the title of your entry, and whether you are submitting to the fiction or non-fiction category. Make sure non-fiction entries are based on the topic question detailed above. Fiction entries can be on any topic you like. Do not include your contact information within your article - but be sure to include a title.
- Entries will be judged on the following criteria:
- **Non Fiction entries:** will be judged on originality, creativity, accuracy, and how well your support your assertions with data or argument. You will also be judged on the presentation of your article, including professionalism, proper spelling, grammar and syntax, and readability. You may write in journalistic style or essay format.
- **Fiction entries:** will be judged on creativity, entertainment value, and the originality or your writing style. Regardless of the genre you choose, you will be judged on the effectiveness of your piece and your technical writing skills.

Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) if you have any questions.



*Dear Barb: My husband and I have recently separated. The circumstances surrounding the separation were very painful for me. I thought we were happily married, until I discovered my husband was having an affair with a coworker. We have a 10-year-old daughter who loves her father very much. I have a problem relating to her warm loving feelings toward her father. On an intellectual level, I realize I should not let my feelings toward my ex-husband interfere with my daughter's relationship with him. However, my emotions are becoming very difficult to contain. What can I do to overcome these angry, bitter feelings and do what is best for my daughter?*

*Thanks*

*Carmen in N.B.*

Hi Carmen, what a difficult situation for you. As I'm sure you know, you are not alone. Divorce is all too common in today's society; unfortunately, the children of divorce seem to suffer the most. Don't lose hope. There are ways you can help your daughter to adjust to the situation and grow up with a healthy outlook on marriage.

The most important thing you can do for your daughter (and probably yourself as well) is to talk about what has happened. Prepare her for the changes that will occur in her life, as well as yours and her father's. Discuss your new living situation, while assuring her that she will continue to have a mom and dad that she will see regularly. Most importantly, assure her that she is in no way responsible for the break-up of your marriage. Children of divorce often feel if they had been better children their parents would have stayed together. A totally illogical thought, but when your world is falling apart you want to find someone to blame and sometimes it is easier to blame yourself. You don't need to get into details with your daughter as to why your marriage ended. She is too young to completely understand. Although I'm sure at times when she is telling you how wonderful her father is you feel like blurting out what happened. That would accomplish nothing and only hurt her.

Children identify with both parents. If she begins to believe her father is bad, then she may start to believe that a part of her is also bad. On the other hand, you need to make sure that your daughter realizes that the divorce is final. Sometimes when parents are too friendly, or try to convince their children everything is okay, the children develop a false belief that their parents are getting back together. It's a good thing to be cordial with your ex-husband, but limit your conversations to items pertaining to your daughter. Try not to talk about the past, or what is going on in each other's private lives. Your daughter needs to see you both, not only as her parents, but also as two people with their own separate lives.

One of the horrible injustices children of divorce often experience is having to choose between their parents. This is something that children of intact families do not usually do. They live with both parents, so they don't have to deal with the guilt of living with one parent instead of the other.

At times, for one spouse, the hurt and betrayal is so devastating, that the other spouse is not able to maintain their objectivity. If this is the case in your situation Carmen, I would suggest you seek counselling. There are all kinds of support groups for divorced people. Many churches offer groups for their parishioners who are going through divorce. Also, your daughter may benefit from a support group for children whose parents are divorcing. It would definitely be of benefit to you and your daughter to pursue this avenue.

An excellent web site to check out is [www.divorcemagazine.com](http://www.divorcemagazine.com). It offers valuable resources for divorced individuals. Good luck in the future, Carmen.

*Next week's column is entitled "Diabetes is affecting millions of Canadians, learn things you can do to prevent or delay its onset."*

*E-mail your questions to [advice.voice@ausu.org](mailto:advice.voice@ausu.org). Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality: your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.*

## Renovation Woes



From  
Where  
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

Roy was no sooner out of the country than I began a long-delayed project. And I didn't bother to tell him about the project either during our daily phone calls. I'm not entirely sure he'll be thrilled when he gets home. Like many men, he was probably secretly hoping I'd forget about the project. Perhaps, he was hoping we would run out of time given so many demands on each of us.

No such luck. Several months ago, we decided to convert a spare bedroom into a bona fide home office. We bought several pieces of kitchen cabinetry with the intention of creating a built-in workstation for two along with lots of storage. All the better to hide the clutter associated with today's paper chase and get the action off the kitchen table.

Like every bright idea, there's always more to it than first meets the eye. The lighting will be woefully inadequate for people relying on bifocals to read virtually anything. The wiring for electrical and telephone is hopelessly out-of-date in our 45-year-old house. Most farm families barely had a telephone in 1969. Hooking up today's computer, printer, fax machine, and telephone will require some updated capability. Sounds like a job for our electrician son Greg. He'll be thrilled.

I know I want to go splashy in this space, because I love color and think I can get away with it here. The cabinets are pure white and the soon-to-be installed laminate is red oak. I've got a stash of co-ordinate fabrics including a toile, check, stripe and tweedy solid already to go on a valance, message boards and assorted other projects. I'll need to use a tinted primer and several coats of my still-to-be purchased deep red paint.

Doing some prep work in Roy's absence seemed the logical thing to do. I moved out the furniture I could safely handle alone. The heavy stuff will needs Roy's strength. The tough part is finding space in a house that refuses to stretch. I then tackled the dated wallpaper border. Soak, soak, soak, pick, pick, pick. While I'm at it, I guess I could use the pry bar to get the really gross baseboards and casings off.

Naturally I couldn't resist peeking under the carpet. It's a twenty-year-old grey rubber-backed, glued down carpet that's seen better days with two kids and a dog. There are still multi-coloured stains around the register from when some of Greg's crayons melted. The CSI team would have a field day identifying some of the other stains. I can only imagine the fun scraping the backing off the floor as we prep for laminate.

We'll need to buy bi-fold doors for the closet, baseboards and trim, lighting and three pieces of countertop for our desk configuration. The sweat equity will be considerably more. We've set a deadline of Christmas because we're supposed to host the family get-together this year. That and we're gluttons for punishment. Demolition is great, from where I sit.

*\*reprinted with permission*



# Searching for Internships

*Lonita Fraser*

## **INTERNSHIP**

### **More Professional Internships in Vancouver and Toronto Canada**

**Term:** Throughout the year

**Length of Position:** 12-24 weeks

**Experience Required:** no

Participants Travel to Canada Independently

Typically Participants Work Independently

Typically The Application Process Time Is 6 weeks

**Application Process Involves:** Letters of Reference, Other, Phone Interview, Resume, Transcript, Written Application. Typically The Application Process Time Is 6 weeks

**Post Services Include:** Job and Internship Network

Who is this program for:

- University students requiring a practicum for graduation
- Professionals seeking to upgrade their marketable skills
- Executives looking for a North American experience
- High School graduates looking for practical experience

Highlights:

- Placements in all sectors and for all majors
- Most placements accredited with universities and professional associations
- Guaranteed placement in industry sector
- Program includes preparatory orientation program in city of placement of a minimum of 4 weeks
- Package includes accommodation, full-board, tuition, full support and placement guarantee

Qualifications: Requirements:

- **Realistic Expectations:** Be very clear that placements will depend on your relevant experience and education, level of language, and industry sector as well as time of the year and other situational factors. Positions are for language acquisition AND experience.
- **Professionalism and Maturity:** All candidates are required to exhibit an appropriate level of commitment to the internship process, InterNeX, their college and Host Company.
- **Good Communication:** Clear and appropriate communication skills, and an ability to assist INTERNeX in understanding your goals for an internship and your relevant experience.
- **Flexibility:** Positions can involve a great variety of tasks, and can be in a variety of related industry sectors. Candidates may intern in any area related to their primary choice of industry and position.
- **Ability to take Initiative:** Host companies do not want to handhold so be prepared to be extremely proactive and to assist the company in finding appropriate tasks for you to undertake.

Please email INTERNeX: <http://www.internabroad.com/listingsp3.cfm/listing/21964>

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

*Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi*

### Ritchie-Jennings Memorial Scholarship

Value: \$1,000

Application Deadline: May 13

Description: Must be currently enrolled in full-time studies at the undergraduate or graduate level at an accredited four-year college or university. Declared major in accounting or criminal justice, with interest in becoming Certified Fraud Examiners

Submit maximum 500 word essay on specified topic. Transcripts and letters of recommendation are required.

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)

Web Site: <http://www.cfenet.com/services/scholarships.asp>

### Gloria Landis Memorial Bursary

Value: \$1,000

Application Deadline: June 15

Description: For residents of Ontario at least 25 years of age with a learning disability, entering first year at a post-secondary or accredited vocational institute program as a mature student. Must not have attended school full-time for three or more years. Must submit 400-600 word essay on topic of learning disabilities.

Submit letters of reference, proof of learning disability, proof of residency and acceptance into a post-secondary institution.

Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO)

Web Site: <http://www.ldao.ca>

### Helen Basset Commemorative Student Scholarship

Value: \$1,000 (4)

Application Deadline: July 29

Description: For Aboriginal women under 31 years of age who are pursuing post-secondary studies with a demonstrated commitment to improving the situation of Aboriginal women in Canada. Submit short essay on goals and plans to contribute to society. Financial need required. Must submit proof of age, Aboriginal descent and post-secondary registration, transcripts, letter of reference, statement of financial need and budget breakdown. For further information, please visit the website posted below

Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) / L'Association des femmes autochtones du Canada (AFAC)

Web Site: <http://www.nwac-hq.org>

### Steven Huesing Scholarship

Value: \$500

Application Deadline: July 31

Description: Enrolled in a Canadian post-secondary institution in a health informatics or health care information management program. Must be of sound academic standing. Submit maximum 500 word description of achievements in health informatics. Transcripts, proof of enrolment and personal letter are required. For further information, please visit the website posted below

COACH: Canada's Health Informatics Association

Web Site: <http://www.coachorg.com/default.asp?id=627>



### **ONCOLOGY WORLD CONGRESS**

Nov 17 - 19, 2005 - New York, NY, USA  
<http://www.oncologycongress.com>

The Congress provides relevant scientific information and focuses on medical innovations, best practices, and new technologies that are directly applicable to the practice of medical oncology today. The latest clinical data and information will be delivered within 5 educational tracks over the course of three days. Attendance is limited to provide an environment that encourages dialog and the exchange of ideas. In addition, there will be numerous opportunities for participants to submit cases for review by our distinguished faculty as well as meet with the faculty throughout the Congress in an informal, small group setting.

### **EMOTIONALLY FOCUSED THERAPY FOR COUPLES**

Nov 24 - 25, 2005 - Toronto, Ontario  
<http://leadingedgeseminars.org/johnson1.htm>

Emotionally Focused Therapy for Couples (EFT) is one of the best-validated couples interventions, and offers a comprehensive theory of adult love and attachment as well as a process for healing distressed relationships. It recognizes that relationship distress results from a perceived threat to basic security and closeness in intimate relationships. This experiential/systematic therapy focuses on helping partners restructure the emotional responses that maintain their negative interaction patterns. Through a series of nine steps, the therapist leads the couple away from conflict-deadlock into new bonding interactions.

You will learn:

- To understand the phenomenon of marital distress in an attachment context
- Creative powerful change events in therapy that foster a more secure bond between partners
- To deal with common impasses and difficult issues in marital therapy
- The steps of EFT that help couples to leave destructive, hostile, or defensive interactions, and share positive attachment that fosters secure bonding

**Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.**

### **LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR SUPERVISORS**

Calgary Alberta - November 17 - 18, 2005  
<http://www.peice.com/eventdetails.aspx?event=101542&ref=Allconferences&frfi=16734>

This two-day course presents practical principles to assist supervisors and managers in their efforts to motivate and mobilize team members toward the fulfillment of objectives. Course discussions and case studies will focus on topics which participants have identified as challenges in their current job assignments. The session, designed to help participants bring out the best in their subordinates, is designed for those currently in, or aspiring to, supervisory positions. A complete set of course materials and lunch are included. Due to the highly interactive nature of this course, the session is limited to a maximum of 20 participants.

Please note that this course, or portions of this course, are also currently available as one or more live, interactive, instructor-led online seminars (typically 1-3 hour sessions) for groups of 6 or more participants from your organization. For additional information, please contact [onlineseminars@peice.com](mailto:onlineseminars@peice.com)

Additional Information: Fee: \$ 1095 CAD  
CEU: 1.6 Continuing Education Units  
PDH: 16 Professional Development Hours

### **WIPCE 2005**

Nov 27-Dec 1, 2005 - Hamilton, New Zealand  
<http://www.wipce2005.com/>  
Te Wananga o Aotearoa is dedicated to promoting inspirational ideas and practices from Indigenous communities that can be applied on an international scale. It is pleased to host this world renowned gathering of indigenous educators, researchers and students. The 2005 conference is an opportunity for honouring all previous hui (gatherings.) It also creates an occasion for bringing interesting and innovative ideas that evoke inspiration and pride as indigenous peoples.

# classifieds

Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) for more information.

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## THE VOICE

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