



Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, Frank Alec, who goes by the Wet'suwet'en hereditary name Woos, and B.C. Indigenous Relations Minister Scott Fraser address the media in Smithers, B.C., on Sunday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

‘Milestone’ deal with Ottawa recognizes hereditary system

Details of proposed pact not made public as some Wet’suwet’en leaders say they remain opposed to Coastal GasLink project

BRENT JANG SMITHERS, B.C.

The federal and B.C. governments have reached a proposed arrangement with the Wet’suwet’en Nation to recognize its hereditary governance system, but a resolution to a pipeline dispute remains elusive.

Talks between hereditary chiefs and senior government officials focused during the weekend on the future status of the Wet’suwet’en’s unceded traditional territory covering 22,000 square kilometres in British Columbia, and defining those boundaries.

The deal was hailed as a milestone for Indigenous rights and title, but details of the arrangement weren’t released on Sunday because they require approval from Wet’suwet’en members.

Coastal GasLink said the company’s crews will resume construction on Monday on its \$6.6-billion pipeline project, after suspending work near Houston, B.C., last Thursday while the talks were being held.

Since Feb. 6, protests and blockades have spread across the country in support of a group of eight Wet’suwet’en hereditary house chiefs who oppose Coastal GasLink’s plan to build a natural gas pipeline in northern British Columbia.

“As Wet’suwet’en, we are the land, and

the land is ours,” Frank Alec, who goes by the Wet’suwet’en hereditary name Woos, said during a news conference.

He was speaking in his Grizzly House territory on behalf of the eight house chiefs on Sunday in Smithers, B.C.

The hereditary chiefs wrapped up their three days of meetings late Saturday night with federal Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett and Scott Fraser, B.C.’s Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

“It is quite a milestone for all of us to view this together,” said Mr. Alec, who is head chief of Grizzly House under the Git-dumden clan.

Mr. Alec, Ms. Bennett and Mr. Fraser also issued a joint statement, committing to “an expedited process to implement Wet’suwet’en rights and title.”

Details of the process for the Wet’suwet’en’s review of the proposed arrangement need to be ironed out.

“For me, it is about humility,” Ms. Bennett said during the news conference.

“It is about learning and for all that we have learned over these days, and the work that we’ve been able to do with respect. It is, as Chief Woos said, a milestone in the history of Canada.”

About 190 kilometres of the 670-kilometre pipeline route cross Wet’suwet’en territory.

■ PIPELINE, A4

First Nations along pipeline route split on pros and cons

NANCY MACDONALD WITSET, B.C.

At first, Shirley Wilson was dead set against the Coastal GasLink pipeline.

“There’s no way they’re going to come wreck our land,” the 63-year-old member of Skin Tyee First Nation remembers thinking, chuckling at the memory. But slowly, Ms. Wilson, a mother of four grown children, started to soften.

She hopes the pipeline can help chip away at the crushing poverty that is the cause of so many social ills – addictions, abuse, suicide and premature death. In the past four years, she buried her 40-year-old son and her 37-year-old son-in-law.

The Skin Tyee reside on the south shore of Francois Lake, a deep, wild trout lake in British Columbia’s north country.

Over five days last week, The Globe and Mail travelled from Kitimat to Burns Lake and back, more than 1,250 kilometres in total, speaking to First Nations people who live along the most contested stretch of the proposed pipeline.

■ WET’SUWET’EN, A8

As Liberals work out assault-rifle ban, new guns hit the market

PATRICK WHITE

Wolverine Supplies, one of Canada’s largest independent gun retailers, celebrated Valentine’s Day with a risky product announcement.

After a year of research and development, the Manitoba-based gun shop sent an e-mail to customers unveiling its latest innovation, the WS-MCR, a semi-automatic rifle with a pistol grip, AR-15-type magazine and free-floating hand guard.

It is virtually identical to another rifle developed by Wolverine’s founder and in-house designer, John Hipwell, that became one of the best-selling guns in the country.

The WS-MCR should be destined for similar fortunes, but for one Howitzer-sized caveat: It is precisely the kind of gun that the Liberal government promised to ban during last fall’s election campaign.

Mr. Hipwell is undeterred. “We can’t just stop looking for new products and ways to expand just because of some rumours about what might be banned,” said Mr. Hipwell, founder of the store and a prominent member of the country’s firearms retail community.

“I still have to live. I still have a mortgage to pay.”

As the Liberal government irons out details of its proposed assault-rifle ban, new models continue to hit the market, sowing greater confusion over what might be banned and when.

One gun-control advocate says the government should impose an immediate suspension on new sales of certain semi-automatic rifles like the WS-MCR.

“We’ve asked the government to freeze new sales until new measures are announced and implemented,” said Heidi Rathjen, co-ordinator for Poly Remembers, a group launched in the wake of the 1989 École Polytechnique shooting to advocate for increased gun control.

“The more of these guns in circulation, the greater the risk to public safety.”

Her comments echo the government’s own sentiments over the past year.

Public Safety Minister Bill Blair’s office has called assault-style rifles “military weapons designed to hunt people, and not animals, in the most efficient manner possible that maximizes the body count at minimum effort.”

■ GUNS, A4

In China, patients with other illnesses squeezed out by coronavirus

NATHAN VANDERKLIPPE ASIA CORRESPONDENT BEIJING

The explosive spread of a virus in China’s Hubei province has now killed more than 2,900 people. But that death toll doesn’t include Fang Heshun. And the list of the sick – more than 80,000 confirmed cases with COVID-19 in the province – doesn’t include Chen Guangcai, Wang Bin or Gong Qunxin.

Each confronted serious illness: cancer, leukemia, a tumour. And each has struggled to get care as health authorities converted hospitals, hotels, stadiums and conference centres to respond to the virus, leaving little room for people needing other forms of medical intervention.

Even now, as authorities in China claim partial victory over the virus – sending people back to work, releasing plans for the reopening of schools, releasing numbers that show a slowing in new virus cases – many of the seriously sick in Wuhan have been unable to find hospital beds. Some have died.

The stresses on health provision in China stand as a warning to other parts of the

world, where the sudden expansion of the outbreak in South Korea, Japan, Iran, Italy and elsewhere has begun to pinch health-care systems. Epidemiologists have warned that the speed with which COVID-19 can spread means that the best response requires a rapid allocation of health-care resources.

In Wuhan, at the epicentre of the virus, that has meant dedicating hospitals to the outbreak and evicting those already admitted for other purposes. In recent days, Hubei, the province where Wuhan is the capital, has seen a decline in numbers of new cases, and governments have ordered more attention be paid to patients with other illnesses.

Yet even those who have successfully petitioned for help have struggled to get suitable care from the overburdened health-care system.

Doctors diagnosed Fang Heshun with kidney cancer in 2018. But in October, 2019, he felt discomfort. Doctors discovered that tumours had spread into his lungs and his brain and began radiation therapy at Tongji Hospital, a university-affiliated institution that is one of the best in Wuhan.

■ CHINA, A7



OSMAN ORSAL/GETTY IMAGES

SYRIA

Refugees mass at borders as fighting escalates ■ A3

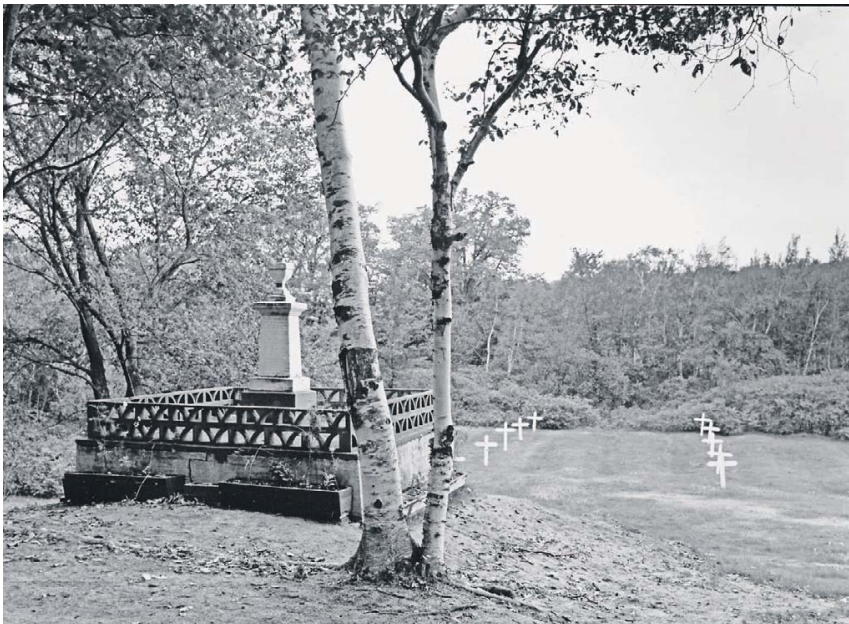
Opinion: Even the rules of war are being ignored ■ A11

REPORT ON BUSINESS

Shopify’s angel investors pay it forward by helping entrepreneurs expand their small businesses ■ B5

MOMENT IN TIME

NEWS PHOTO ARCHIVE



PARKS CANADA

IRISH EMIGRANTS COME TO CANADA IN ‘COFFIN SHIPS’

For more than 100 years, photographers have preserved an extraordinary collection of 20th-century news photography for *The Globe and Mail*. Each week, *The Globe* features one of these images on a particular theme. Since *St. Patrick's Day* falls in March, we're looking at Irish culture in Canada this month.

Grosse Île, Que., is the largest of a small archipelago of islands in the St. Lawrence that served as a quarantine depot for the port of Quebec between 1832 and 1937. Initially established to contain a cholera epidemic, it is now the largest resting place in Canada for those who died as a result of disease during the great migration forced by the Irish Potato Famine: More than 8,072 Irish emigrants are buried in its cemetery, shown above. Countless more died on the voyage from Ireland in unsanitary vessels known as “coffin ships.” Approximately 100,000 emigrants made it to Canada in 1847 alone. Another 6,000 of

those who died after arrival are buried at a secondary site at Pointe-Saint-Charles in Montreal. More than four million migrants came through Grosse Île in its century of operation. The site is now managed by Parks Canada and, in 1996, it was designated the Irish Memorial National Historic Site. As of the 2016 census, 4.6 million Canadians claim Irish ancestry, the fourth-largest ethnic identity behind English, Scottish and French. In 1909, the a fraternal Irish group, the Ancient Order of Hibernians erected 14-metre granite Celtic cross on the west of the island. It reads: “Sacred to the memory of thousands of Irish Emigrants who, to persevere the faith, suffered hunger and exile in 1847-1848, and stricken with fever, ended here their sorrowful pilgrimage.”

SHANE DINGMAN

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[COLUMNISTS]

LESLIE BECK

OPINION



There's no need to give up dairy just because one study suggests it might increase your breast-cancer risk ■ A13

ADAM RADWANSKI

OPINION



Trudeau could salvage the federal Liberals' climate agenda by shifting focus from supply to demand ■ B4

ROB CARRICK

OPINION



A declining percentage of taxpayers are making RRSP contributions, and those who do tend to be older men ■ B8

Culture of friendly kissing poses a dilemma in Europe as coronavirus spreads

COLLEEN BARRY MILAN

When French President Emmanuel Macron leaned in to give Premier Giuseppe Conte the Italian double-cheek kiss not once, but on two separate occasions, during a Franco-Italian summit in Naples this week, it was much more than a greeting.

It was a signal to citizens not to fear their neighbours as a new virus from China spreads, with Italy established as Europe's hot spot.

Friendly kissing in the time of coronavirus has become a fresh dilemma, especially in effusive Southern Europe, with perhaps the power to reshape customs. But even more-reserved northerners are grappling with whether to forgo the hallowed handshake.

The government's special commissioner for coronavirus, Angelo Borrelli, has suggested that Italians' demonstrative nature could be contributing to the virus' spread, with more than 1,100 people testing positive and 29 deaths, almost all in the country's north.

But there have been no official edicts on the social custom of kissing, which sociologists say is rooted in Italy's Mediterranean culture as well as its strong family and social structure.

“We have a collective social life that is very florid, very expansive. We have lots of contact, we shake hands, we kiss each other, we hug each other,” Mr. Borelli told reporters.

“Maybe it is better in this period not to shake hands, and do not have too much contact, and try to be a bit less expansive, which is different from how I am.”

In neighbouring France,

Health Minister Olivier Véran on Saturday advised people to cut back on “la bise,” the custom in France and elsewhere in Europe of giving greetings with kisses, or air kisses, on the cheeks, along with shaking hands.

France, which has had 100 cases and two deaths so far, made a similar recommendation during the swine flu epidemic a decade ago.

Swiss people should consider dropping the everyday greeting of kissing each other on the cheeks, to avoid spreading the coronavirus, Switzerland's Health Minister Alain Berset said in remarks published on Sunday.

“

Renouncing greeting kisses is a measure that should be seriously taken into consideration.

ALAIN BERSET
SWITZERLAND'S HEALTH MINISTER

In Switzerland, as in neighbouring France, it is common for women and people of opposite sexes to greet each other with alternating kisses on both cheeks. The Swiss version generally involves an asymmetrical three in total, in contrast to the two more usual for “la bise” (the kiss) across the border.

“We know that keeping one's distance socially is the best way to slow the spread of the virus. That is why renouncing greeting kisses is a measure that should be seriously taken into consideration,” Mr. Berset told the *SonntagsZeitung* newspaper, when asked if he was advising against the greeting.

In Spain, a country rooted with a strong tradition of cheek-kiss-

ing in social as well as many professional exchanges, is so far continuing the practice unabated. Spain has registered 71 coronavirus infections.

In Germany, where children are taught to shake hands with adults and the firmness of the grip can be seen as correlating to personality strength, health experts and doctors are trying to persuade people to quit traditional etiquette.

At Virchow hospital in Berlin, doctors not only stopped shaking hands with their patients – even non-contagious ones – but are actively encouraging them to follow the example as cases in Germany hit 66.

Health experts have been warning that shaking hands is a prime way to spread the disease.

In northern Italy, the virus is taking a deep social toll, curtailing the usual opportunities to meet.

With schools, museums and most public offices officially closed until Monday, many people are staying at home and avoiding all social contact. Italy's financial capital, Milan, is as empty as in the peak summer holiday period, with many companies giving professionals the option to work from home, and some restaurants and neighbourhood shops closed because of a lack of business. Ones that remain open are unseasonably empty.

During Milan Fashion Week, cheek kissing was dropped as the week went on and cases spiralled in favour of other acknowledgments, such as a little double kiss to fingertips that one fashionista dubbed, “the new coronavirus kiss.”

Associated Press, with files from Reuters

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Migrants gather at Turkey-Greece border

Conflict escalates in Syria in what a Turkish official says is a direct response to Ankara's move to let refugees head to Europe

COSTAS KANTOURIS
ANDREW WILKS
KASTANIES, GREECE

Thousands of migrants and refugees massed at Turkey's western frontier Sunday, trying to enter Greece by land and sea after Turkey said its borders were open to those hoping to head to Europe. In Syria, Turkish troops shot down two Syrian warplanes after the Syrian military downed a Turkish drone, a major escalation in the direct conflict between Syrian and Turkish forces.

Turkey's decision to ease border restrictions came amid a Russia-backed Syrian government offensive into Syria's northwestern Idlib province. That offensive has killed dozens of Turkish troops and led to a surge of nearly a million Syrian civilians fleeing the fighting toward Turkey's sealed border. Turkey backs the Syrian rebels fighting in Idlib province, and has sent thousands of troops into the area. Idlib is the last opposition-held stronghold in Syria, and is dominated by al-Qaeda linked fighters.

A Turkish official said the fighting in Idlib was directly linked to Turkey's decision to open the gates for refugees to Europe. He said Ankara had changed its focus to preparing for the possibility of new arrivals from Syria "instead of preventing refugees who in-



Migrants hoping to reach Greece wait at a border crossing near Edirne, Turkey, on Sunday. Greek authorities used tear gas to push back crowds attempting to cross the border. OSMAN SADI TEMIZEL/REUTERS

tend to migrate to Europe.” “Europe and others must take robust action to address this monumental challenge,” said Fahrettin Altun, the communications director for Turkey's President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. “We can't be expected to do this on our own.” Mr. Erdogan's decision to open his country's borders with Europe made good on a long-standing threat to let refugees into the continent.

His announcement marked a dramatic departure from a previous policy of containment, an apparent attempt to pressure Europe into offering Turkey more support in dealing with the fal-

lout from the Syrian war to its south.

Under a €6-billion (about \$8.9-billion) deal in 2016, Turkey agreed to stem the tide of refugees to Europe in return for financial aid, after more than a million people entered Europe in 2015. Turkey has since accused the EU of failing to honour the agreement, and Mr. Erdogan has frequently threatened to allow refugees into Europe unless more international support was provided.

Turkey already hosts 3.6 million Syrian refugees, as well as many others from Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Turkey borders Greece and Bulgaria, both European Union members.

On the Greek-Turkish land border, Greek army and police patrols using tear gas and stun grenades to thwart attempts by thousands to push into the country overnight.

Officials said the situation was much calmer Sunday morning. But in the afternoon, authorities used tear gas and water cannons to push back another crowd attempting to cross. Migrants threw rocks and other objects, and one policeman was injured. Greek authorities said they stopped about 10,000 crossing attempts Saturday, and another 5,500 on Sunday.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis convened the defence and foreign affairs committee

Sunday evening. Afterward, a government spokesman said Greece was starting a one-month freeze on accepting asylum applications from migrants who enter illegally.

Europe's border agency Frontex said it was “redeploying equipment and additional officers to Greece.”

A Greek government official said the Turkish authorities also fired tear gas at the Greek border, using drones flying close to the border. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the matter with the media.

Stavros Zamilides, the president of the Greek border community of Kastanies, said Turkish soldiers used wire cutters to actively help people cross.

The United Nations migration organization reported at least 13,000 people had massed on Turkey's land border by Saturday night, the vast majority apparently from Afghanistan.

In Istanbul, a steady stream of buses, taxis, cars and minibuses were ferrying hundreds more throughout Sunday to Edirne, a town near the border with Greece. The vehicles weren't part of any regular bus route.

Those boarding the buses – the vast majority Afghans – said they were heading to Greece and eventually hoped to get to Germany.

On the Greek islands, more than 500 people had arrived from the nearby Turkish coast by Sunday evening, a clear increase in the usual number of people who arrive on eastern Aegean Islands from Turkey. Existing migrant camps on the islands are already dramatically overcrowded, and tensions there have mounted.

REUTERS

Biden takes aim at Sanders in South Carolina victory speech

ADRIAN MORROW
U.S. CORRESPONDENT
COLUMBIA, S.C.

In his victory speech on the night of the South Carolina primary, Joe Biden fired a broadside at Bernie Sanders.

The leftist Vermont senator, he said, would “scrap” Obamacare, “protect” gun manufacturers and raise taxes on the middle class. Worst of all, the former vice-president warned, Mr. Sanders would be unable to defeat President Donald Trump.

“We have the option of winning big or losing big,” Mr. Biden told a gymnasium full of supporters at the University of South Carolina. “That’s the choice.”

The landslide win – Mr. Biden beat the second-place Mr. Sanders by 28 percentage points – saved his flagging campaign after dismal finishes in three previous states.

Now, he must prove that he can win big to become the main moderate challenger to the insurgent self-described socialist currently leading the race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

The next tests are just hours away on Super Tuesday, when several major states including California, Texas, North Carolina, Virginia and Massachusetts vote.

Auguring well for Mr. Biden was his dominance among South Carolina's African-American voters, the Democratic Party's most loyal demographic. He also won older voters and suburbanites. The game now will be trying to hold such a coalition together to overcome Mr. Sanders's base of youth and working-class people.

Black leaders in South Carolina said Mr. Biden's popularity with African-Americans was largely a function of his many years spent building relationships with the community – prominent black politicians such as long-time South Carolina Congressman Jim Clyburn endorsed him – as well as his association with former president Barack Obama.

“If President Obama was willing to trust him, we should be willing to trust him as a race, as a group of people,” said Eric Martin, pastor of Mother Emanuel Church in Charleston. “In this particular state, the reason there is a closeness to Joe Biden is because he was the vice-president to the first African-American president.”

Mr. Martin, however, said Mr. Sanders's raucous rallies reminded him of the energy and enthusiasm around Mr. Obama's 2008 campaign.

Helping Mr. Biden's chances were the cratering of fellow moderates Tom Steyer, Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar in South Carolina. Mr. Steyer quit the race on election night, while Mr. Buttigieg dropped out Sunday night.

Still, Mr. Biden will soon have to face another contender for the centre lane: Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire former mayor of New York, did not contest early state primaries in favour of spending his fortune on advertising in Super

Tuesday states. Mr. Bloomberg is fighting Mr. Biden for second place in most national polls.

Both Mr. Biden and Mr. Bloomberg spent part of Sunday in Selma, Ala., at a commemoration for “Bloody Sunday,” the 1965 protest during which police attacked civil-rights marchers.

Super Tuesday states with large black populations – Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Arkansas – could prove Mr. Biden's best hope for arresting Mr. Sanders's momentum.

Unclear, however, is whether Mr. Biden's South Carolina blowout has come too late to save his campaign.

Mr. Sanders leads polls in both California and Texas, and could amass a nearly insurmountable lead in delegates. Mr. Biden has virtually no time to hit voters with additional ads before voting day.

South Carolina was worrying for Mr. Sanders. He has stepped up his efforts to win over African-Americans after largely failing during his 2016 campaign, and had recently overtaken Mr. Biden in some national polls of black voters. But he came up far short.

On Sunday, Mr. Sanders fired back at Mr. Biden's contention that socialist policies would not win an election. He vowed to motivate people who don't normally vote to come to the polls.

“For too long, the Democratic Party and leaders have been going to rich people's homes, raising money, and they've ignored the working class and the middle class and low-income people,” he said.

With fellow progressive Elizabeth Warren finishing far behind in every state so far, Mr. Sanders has largely dominated the left lane of the race.

Mr. Biden stepped up his game on the stump in South Carolina, delivering tougher speeches attacking Mr. Sanders's history of voting against gun control and in favour of shielding gun makers from lawsuits when their weapons are used to kill people. Mr. Sanders has said that these votes were “bad” and he has changed his mind.

The former vice-president also emotionally recalled visiting Mother Emanuel Church in Charleston in 2015 after a white supremacist gunned down nine congregants, and finding solace for the death of his own son Beau.

And Mr. Biden faced attack ads from a pro-Trump SuperPAC on local television in South Carolina, an indication that the President still sees him as the most formidable threat to his re-election. It all comes after Mr. Trump used his impeachment trial to repeatedly air unproved allegations that Mr. Biden improperly helped his other son, Hunter, with his business interests in Ukraine while vice-president.

Felicia Cummings, a 63-year-old nurse, said Mr. Biden's overcoming of adversity – and ability to stare down Mr. Trump – were his most appealing qualities as a candidate.

“He's strong, he's honest and he's been fighting for us for more than 40 years,” she said. “He's been beat up a lot, but he keeps coming back.”

Former vice-president's triumph halts senator's seemingly inexorable march

DAVID SHRIBMAN

■ ANALYSIS

Democrats to Bernie Sanders: Not so fast.

Only days ago conventional Democrats were in a full-blown panic over the possibility the world's oldest political party was on the verge of selecting a nominee who isn't even a member of their party, a prospect that – because of Mr. Sanders' contempt for political convention and his embrace of the most liberal proposals of modern time – shook the party establishment to its core.

Now it is former vice-president Joe Biden, with an astonishing triumph in South Carolina, who has the biggest victory of the young political season; who can claim, at least for a few hours, the blessings of momentum; and who, with all its risks as the campaign swings into Super Tuesday, is the fresh target of his remaining rivals.

But Mr. Biden – with a small campaign treasury and trailing Mr. Sanders in national polls and in California and Texas, the two biggest prizes in Tuesday's 14 contests, which together account for a third of all the delegates – faces formidable obstacles in his third try for the White House.

Even so, Mr. Biden's haul of about half the Palmetto State vote was almost double the rate Mr. Sanders won in New Hampshire. Sanders won in New Hampshire – an outcome fuelled by winning three in five of black voters who make up a majority of Democratic primary voters in South Carolina. He halted what hours earlier seemed the Vermonter's inexorable march to the Milwaukee convention as the leading candidate for the nomination. He romped in a fashion that may eventually transform a candidate who bumbled in a series of debates and who fumbled his early role as front-runner into the natural repository of support for moderates terrified of the notion of nominating Mr. Sanders, with his platform of a broad government health-care plan and an economic policy with a whiff of class warfare.

A word of caution before any single caucus or primary result acquires disproportionate importance: Only 155 of the 1,990 delegates required for the nomination have been distributed. Mr. Sanders holds a slim but inconsequential lead over Mr. Biden in the political equivalent of the opening half-inning of a complete baseball game.

But the significance of Saturday's results in South Carolina cannot be ignored. Those results drove the winner of the Iowa caucuses, former mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Ind., from the race. They denied Mr. Sanders another victory, they catapulted Mr. Biden from the back of the pack to its front ranks, and they reshaped the Democratic race at a time when the world faces possible viral pandemic and when the U.S. econ-

omy – the foundation stone of President Donald J. Trump's drive for a second term – is shaken.

Mr. Biden's remarks at his victory celebration were calibrated for maximum effect to voters whose principal interest is in defeating Mr. Trump rather than enacting any specific set of proposals.

In his invocation of “what this party stands for, what we can accomplish, what we believe,” Mr. Biden reminded Democrats that he was a lifelong member of the party, a not-so-subtle way of separating himself from Mr. Sanders, a self-proclaimed democratic socialist who was elected to the House and Senate as an Independent. And by saying the winter and spring campaign was not “a battle for the soul of the Democratic Party” and was instead “a battle for the soul of the United States of America,” he sought to establish himself both as a conciliator and as the standard-bearer best suited to take on the President in the fall.

That addressed the presence of two potentially conflicting strains of thought in the Democratic Party: the thirst for a new burst of progressive legislation on

health care, the environment, taxation and government regulation; and the hunger to defeat Mr. Trump.

Now the campaign enters an entirely new phase. The candidates campaigned intensively in the four states of Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina for about a

year, visiting small towns, engaging voters in town meetings, encountering them in community centres or on leisurely walks for morning coffee. Now nearly four times that many states hold their contests Tuesday, and none of them – California and Texas in particular, but also vital states such as Colorado, Virginia and North Carolina where the Democrats will battle for votes in November – has experienced anything remotely comparable to the retail politics practised in the early states. All that plus one more thing: the presence of former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is peddling the same sort of moderate policies and unity message that Mr. Biden and Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota are offering. The difference is that Mr. Bloomberg has spent US\$410-million of his own money, largely on television ads in the Super Tuesday states.

But Mr. Biden, with little financial resources and virtually no television presence in California until this weekend, nonetheless brings an advantage to some Super Tuesday contests as well. The black vote that propelled him to victory in South Carolina accounts for more than a third of the Democratic vote in the states of Alabama, North Carolina and Tennessee. As a result, Super Tuesday in some states may come down to the modern Democratic calculus: the colour of money versus the political interests of people of colour.

Special to The Globe and Mail

Ontario providing \$20-million boost for psychotherapy access

New program is designed to deliver free cognitive behavioural therapy online, by phone and in person

ERIN ANDERSSEN

The Ontario government will spend \$20-million to increase access to publicly funded talk therapy, the latest signal that provinces are recognizing the growing need for free access to an effective treatment for mental illness.

The province is rolling out a new program – the first of its kind in Canada – designed to deliver free cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) online, by phone and in person to individuals, families and youth age 10 and up, depending on their need.

The initial investment will be primarily used to expand four existing psychotherapy pilot projects operating in the province. A component of the program in which people will use self-directed manuals and receive telephone support from a therapist will launch this spring. A pilot for children and youth is slated to begin in the winter of 2021.

Psychotherapy is a recommended first step in treating the most common mental-health conditions – depression and anxiety – but many people have to pay out of pocket since publicly funded therapy has been in short supply, and waiting lists are often long.

Across the country, other provinces have been investing in new ways to deliver talk therapy – including online programs, and funding for community counselling sites. In December, for example, Quebec announced new pilot sites for its \$35-million-a-year psychotherapy project.

Ontario’s new program – the centerpiece of the province’s mental-health and addiction strategy to be announced Tuesday – will be a smaller-scale version of a groundbreaking \$600-million-a-year public psychotherapy program in England. That program now delivers therapy to

half a million people a year. The Ontario program aims to provide talk therapy to 80,000 people a year when it has been fully implemented over the next several years. The money will come from the \$3.8-billion already announced by the Ontario government for mental-health and addiction services over the next ten years.

As in England, the Ontario program, called Mindability, will deliver cognitive-behaviour therapy, a structured evidence-based treatment that focuses on changing unhealthy thoughts and behaviours, and can be effectively delivered in relatively quick doses.

People can be referred by their doctors, or will be able to self-refer. The province will begin phasing in a one-stop 8-1-1 number for some mental-health services by the end of the year.

The program is intended for people with anxiety, depression, PTSD and OCD, and will include people also struggling with addictions. Patients will be screened by a mental-health clinician to determine what level of services they receive – what’s known as a stepped-care approach. Someone with more mild depression may be referred to an online CBT course, for example, while a person in higher distress would receive face-to-face talk therapy, either in a group setting or up to 15 individual sessions for most cases.

A unique component of the program is that, as in England, patient outcomes will be measured at every session, to help inform therapists to “step up” care when needed, and for the system as a whole to track how well it’s working.

The decision comes three years after the province funded pilot projects overseen by four mental-health hospitals – Toronto’s Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences in Whitby, The Royal in Ottawa and Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care in Penetanguishene.

The Ontario program aims to provide talk therapy to 80,000 people a year when it has been fully implemented over the next several years.

The hospitals served as hubs, training and overseeing counsellors to deliver CBT at dozens of community locations. To date, 5,000 people have received talk therapy. The program has data on 1,500 patients, which according to government officials, show a recovery rate of 40 per cent. While that is still a small sample, it’s not far from the 50 per cent recovery rate now reported by the English program – the goal first set when Improving Access to Psychological Therapies, or IAPT, was created there in 2008.

The IAPT program has been touted by many experts, both in Canada and abroad, as a model for how to deliver talk therapy in a public system. The program now screens a million people a year, with half receiving some form of therapy, delivered by 10,500 therapists, many newly trained to deliver CBT.

The English system has not grown without criticism, including for focusing on one kind of therapy, instead of allowing therapists more flexibility – in response, other types of talk therapy have been slowly added in recent years. Patient choice, burnout of clinicians, and waiting times have been additional challenges to the program.

Training enough therapists in CBT was also a huge undertaking in England – a task likely to be daunting in Ontario as well, where the mental-health work force is already overwhelmed by rising demand.

Ontario plans to rely on clinicians currently working in the public system, and says it will invest in CBT training for additional counsellors.

Another issue has been ensuring that people in the program also get access to social services, such as housing supports and employment counselling, which are often key contributors to mental illness. For its part, the Ontario government plans to pilot a program that will deliver CBT to people on social assistance, who often have an even harder time getting therapy.

Guns

■ FROM A1

During last year’s election campaign, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau characterized his plan to ban and buy back the guns as an urgent public safety measure.

Yet, the rifles continue to sell at a brisk pace, according to retailers, adding to the eventual scope and cost of the proposed buyback program.

Mr. Blair has pegged the number of assault-style rifles in the country at 250,000 with an average cost of \$1,500 each, but exact figures are unknown. Many firearms the government considers assault-style rifles are classified as non-restricted long guns under Canada’s firearms law. Law enforcement have been unable to track them since the Conservative government scrapped the long-gun registry in 2012.

Ms. Rathjen says she was given indication that the government would start banning individual models by order in council last December. Now, the timing seems less certain.

“The gun lobby and the gun manufacturers are doing exactly what you would expect – they are trying to sell more guns. That’s good for them. That’s entirely predictable,” she said. “This is where the government needs to step in as soon as possible and not delay with orders in council.”

Mr. Blair’s office remains vague on the scope and timeline, only stating the government remains committed to a prohibition on “military-style assault rifles” twinned with a buyback program, and that a multistep approach would be announced “in the near future.”

To further cloud the issue, the term “military-style assault rifle” is undefined in Canadian law. Many firearms enthusiasts insist it should only apply to military weapons capable of automatic fire, guns that have long been prohibited in Canada. Public Safety Canada, however, has cited a much broader definition used in the United States that describes assault rifles as any magazine-fed, semi-automatic rifle featuring two or more specific military-style characteristics, including a grenade launcher, telescoping or folding stock, pistol grip and bayonet mount.

“For right now, the only information we have is that it’s business as usual,” said Alison De Groot, managing director of the Canadian Sporting Arms and Ammunition Association, an industry group representing firearms businesses. “Every business is obviously doing their own risk assessments. But it’s hard to believe that we’re going to go down this road.”

The prospect of a ban has roiled the industry. For 56 per cent of gun businesses, a semi-automatic rifle ban would have “devastating” effects, according to a poll conducted by the CSAAA. But many have rallied around a petition sponsored by Conservative MP Gary Motz calling on the government to abandon the ban. It closed on Feb. 15 with more than 175,000 signatures.

“This government has not defined clearly what they are going to do – how they are going to enforce it, the time frame, anything,” Mr. Hipwell at Wolverine said. “In the meantime, we have a legitimate business to run.”

OTTAWA MAKES PROGRESS ON WRONGFUL-CONVICTION REVIEW BOARD

TORONTO A new independent panel that would review claims of wrongful convictions is edging toward reality, as the Liberal government moves forward on one of its campaign promises.

Signs of progress came last week in Ottawa, where Justice Minister David Lametti met with a working group that includes David Milgaard, who spent 23 years in prison for a murder he didn’t commit.

“I very much appreciate the insight and guidance provided by the working group during our meeting,” Mr. Lametti said. “It is important for me to hear directly from experts and stakeholders to determine the path forward on this important commitment.”

While Canada enjoys a robust criminal justice system, mistakes happen. The current remedy lies in a ministerial review process in which only the most obvious system failures are referred back to the courts for a final decision.

James Lockyer, a prominent lawyer who chairs the working group, said other countries have an independent commission on which a Canadian version should be modelled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Residents of the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory southwest of Montreal monitor a blockade near railway tracks that pass through their community as they protest in support of Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs on Sunday. PETER MCCABE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pipeline: Hereditary chiefs continue to oppose project

■ FROM A1

The final two days of the meetings were held at a Smithers hotel, after the first day at the Office of the Wet’suwet’en, a non-profit society governed by hereditary chiefs.

Hereditary chiefs continue to oppose the pipeline project, and Mr. Alec said the dispute is not over yet.

But Mr. Fraser said Coastal GasLink has the province’s environmental assessment certificate for construction. “While we have disagreement on this issue, we are developing a protocol here with the Office of the Wet’suwet’en, a process to recognize rights and title for the future. We’ve done that in three days and three nights, which is something that should have been done 23 years ago,” Mr. Fraser said, referring to governments’ failure to follow up on a landmark decision by the Supreme Court of Canada in 1997.

In that ruling, the court confirmed Indigenous title exists in British Columbia. The court said a new trial would be needed to settle the land claims, but also recommended another path by urging governments to negotiate with First Nations in good faith over rights and title.

A new trial has not been held in the case launched by hereditary chiefs with the Gitksan and Wet’suwet’en; it is known as the Delgamuukw-Gisday’wa case, named after the main chiefs.

In early February, RCMP arrested 28 peo-

ple along a logging road after supporters of the hereditary chiefs set up barricades to prevent Coastal GasLink workers from crossing the Morice River Bridge to get to their construction sites.

The Wet’suwet’en’s hereditary system comprises 13 house groups, which in turn fall under five clans. The group of eight Wet’suwet’en house chiefs has led a vocal campaign against the pipeline’s construction, saying hereditary leaders, not elected band councillors, have jurisdiction over their traditional territory located outside of federal reserves.

All eight house chiefs who oppose Coastal GasLink attended the meetings in Smithers. One house chief has taken a neutral view on the pipeline project while there are four vacancies for house chiefs.

Coastal GasLink has reached project agreements with 20 elected First Nation councils, including five elected Wet’suwet’en band councils along the pipeline route. Indigenous leaders who back the pipeline say the hereditary chiefs have been turbocharged by climate activists.

Peter Grant, a Vancouver lawyer who represented the Gitksan and Wet’suwet’en in the Delgamuukw-Gisday’wa case, said the proposed arrangement for the Wet’suwet’en’s rights and title has been a long time coming.

“We’re 23 years late, but at least we’re getting there,” Mr. Grant said. “Each of the clans will discuss this and then they will all come together.”

He said it is hard for him to not get emotional about rights and title, as he awaits the discussions by the Wet’suwet’en people in March. “It’s going to be on the governments to educate the non-Wet’suwet’en about what this is and to provide the assurance that it’s okay. We still have a country called Canada. It’s okay.”

Coastal GasLink began work in early 2019 on constructing a pipeline that would transport natural gas from northeastern B.C. to Kitimat on the coast, where LNG Canada has started building an \$18-billion terminal for exporting liquefied natural gas to Asia in 2025. The B.C. and federal governments back the LNG terminal and natural gas pipeline.

Coastal GasLink president David Pfeiffer said the pipeline project has its permits and remains on track for completion by the end of 2023. “While much has been accomplished, much work remains and we wish all parties success as their work continues and the Wet’suwet’en people consider the proposed arrangement,” Mr. Pfeiffer said.

Former NDP MP Nathan Cullen, who has been serving as a liaison between the B.C. government and hereditary chiefs since late January, said it is important for the Wet’suwet’en’s review process to play out internally this month. “Working out a rights and title arrangement, as you can imagine – loads of complexity to it,” Mr. Cullen said. “You’re talking about a new arrangement between three orders of government and what that means.”

Afghan President rejects Taliban prisoner release under U.S. deal

ABDUL QADIR SEDIQI KABUL

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani rejected on Sunday a Taliban demand for the release of 5,000 prisoners as a condition for talks with Afghanistan’s government and civilians – included in a deal between the United States and the Islamist militants.

“The government of Afghanistan has made no commitment to free 5,000 Taliban prisoners,” Mr. Ghani told reporters in Kabul, a day after the deal was signed in Qatar to start a political settlement aimed at ending the United States’ longest war.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told CBS’s *Face the Nation* program there had been prisoner releases from both sides in the

past, and voiced hope that negotiations would begin in the coming days between the Afghan government and the Taliban.

“It’s going to be rocky and bumpy,” Mr. Pompeo said. “No one is under any false illusion that this won’t be a difficult conversation.”

Western diplomats see challenges ahead for U.S. negotiators as they shepherd negotiations between Mr. Ghani’s government and the Taliban, who ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001 and imposed many restrictions on women and activities deemed “un-Islamic.”

Under the accord, the U.S. and the Taliban are committed to work expeditiously to release combat and political prisoners as a confidence-building measure,

with the co-ordination and approval of all relevant sides. The agreement calls for up to 5,000 jailed Taliban prisoners to be released in exchange for up to 1,000 Afghan government captives by March 10.

On the issue of the prisoner swap, Mr. Ghani said, “It is not in the authority of United States to decide, they are only a facilitator.”

Mr. Ghani told CNN on Sunday that U.S. President Donald Trump had not asked for the release of the prisoners and that the issue of prisoner releases should be discussed as part of a comprehensive peace deal. The political consensus needed for such a major step does not currently exist, Mr. Ghani said.

Mr. Ghani said key issues need to be discussed first, including the

Taliban’s ties with Pakistan and other countries that had offered it sanctuary, its ties with what he called terrorist groups and drug cartels, and the place of Afghanistan’s security forces and its civil administration.

“The people of Afghanistan need to believe that we’ve gone from war to peace, and not that the agreement will be either a Trojan horse or the beginning of a much worse phase of conflict,” Mr. Ghani added. He said verifiable mechanisms were needed to ensure commitments made are actually delivered.

The accord was signed on Saturday by U.S. special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad and Taliban political chief Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, witnessed by Mr. Pompeo.

Iran on Sunday dismissed the

agreement as a pretext to legitimize the presence of U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

“The United States has no legal standing to sign a peace agreement or to determine the future of Afghanistan,” Iran’s Foreign Ministry said in a statement reported by state media.

Under the agreement, the U.S. is committed to reducing the number of its troops in Afghanistan to 8,600 from 13,000 within 135 days of signing. It also is committed under the accord to work with allies to proportionally reduce the number of coalition forces in Afghanistan over that period, if the Taliban forces adhere to their security guarantees and ceasefire.

REUTERS



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Pakua Shipu, Quebec

China: People with symptoms similar to coronavirus are being denied treatment

■ FROM A1

He was scheduled for another treatment Jan. 31.

But with the virus outbreak, they could not access care at Tongji. Mr. Fang was sent instead to Hanyang Hospital, a local institution that could administer medicine but not radiation.

"Before he went to Hanyang, he could walk, talk and eat. But after just one week, he was half-paralyzed," his daughter, Fang Fang, said. Desperate for help, she posted information on the Twitter-like Weibo service about his case. Hours later, members of her parents' community committee – part of China's government system of local control – reached out to offer help. They got in touch with higher levels of government, and city health-committee representatives responded.

But, they said, with the continued virus outbreak, some of Tongji's own doctors were in isolation. Her husband, too, contracted COVID-19 when he went to the hospital to buy medicine for her father. Ms. Fang and her mother-in-law were then infected. They're now living in isolation.

And Mr. Fang died Feb. 25. His daughter says she believes another round of radiation could have extended his life. "The disease is serious, so we never expected another five or 10 years. But if all of this hadn't happened, he should have lived at least another year or two. The tumour wouldn't have developed this fast," Ms. Fang said.

His death, she said, was "too fast, faster than the withering of a flower."

Others have been left to their own resources. In Xiaogan, a city in Hubei, Gong Qunxin needs white blood cell reduction apheresis, a specialized leukemia treatment that is available only in Wuhan, about 50 kilometres away. "The doctor said his condition is 'dangerous and urgent,'" said Wen Wei, the sister-in-law of



A woman who has recovered from COVID-19 is disinfected by volunteers as she arrives at a hotel for a 14-day quarantine after being discharged from a hospital in Wuhan, China, on Sunday. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Mr. Gong's son.

The hospital in Xiaogan offered the family a pass to drive on locked-down roads and a medical transfer authorization. But they "made it clear to us that instead of putting all of our hope in them, we could use our own resources and networks to get beds in more professional hospitals," Ms. Wen said.

For most of the week, the family had no success. They made hundreds of calls, but found out only through friends that Wuhan hospitals won't accept Mr. Gong. The hospitals themselves had no response. (The Globe and Mail called Tongji 10 times Friday, but no one answered). Meanwhile, Mr. Gong's son walked two hours to the hospital to see him, since local transit is not operating.

Then, on Wednesday night, the family found another hospi-

tal in Wuhan willing to take Mr. Gong. With no beds, however, he spent his first night in a hallway. By Friday night, he had been placed in a ward – but in isolation, because even though a test for COVID-19 came back negative, he had previously run a fever. The family continues to fear for his health.

"I can't say that I blame everything on government incompetence or a disparity in the allocation of medical resources. There's nothing wrong with hospitals prioritizing the needs of coronavirus patients," Ms. Wen said. "Sacrifice the small families for the sake of the bigger ones – that I can understand. But a life is a life. And even if my uncle is just one person, it doesn't mean his life isn't worth saving."

WEN WEI

Chen Zheling, too, has struggled to find proper medical care

for his father, Chen Guangcai, who has been diagnosed with high bilirubin levels, although doctors have yet to confirm the cause. Mr. Chen's wife is a nurse. His father worked in virus response. He himself is part of a local work squad securing food and necessities for the community.

They found a place for his father in a local hospital, which is "helping him stay alive." But Mr. Chen has little hope of getting his father into a more sophisticated care facility in Wuhan.

"I just feel so hopeless, like the world has closed the windows in front of me and I can find no way in," he said. "When you try everything, but keep being rejected, you will know what it feels like to have no place to go. That's a feeling I've never experienced."

For others, virus fears have denied treatment to people who exhibit symptoms common to COVID-19. Wang Bin is in an advanced stage of liver cancer that has left him feverish. His lungs, too, have shown signs of infection, an indication of the ravages of cancer. His temperature has been normal since November. It's "not a coronavirus infection. Yet the hospital kicked us out because they said no one with any lung infection could be allowed in," said Wang Cheng, his son.

Since then, Wang Bin's health has been unstable. Earlier this week, he became unresponsive for a few hours, mumbling and slipping in and out of consciousness at home. His family can do little but hope that he will, with the help of pills they have purchased through an app, survive the outbreak.

"I can say that the coronavirus in Wuhan has without a doubt made things worse for my family. Because of the lack of effective treatment, you can say that my father is fighting against cancer with his weakened body," Wang Cheng said. But compared with other cancer patients, his father "is lucky, because he is still alive."

With reports from Alexandra Li

Centrist and right-wing, both and neither: MacKay checks all of the above in Tory race

CAMPBELL CLARK

■ OPINION



There are two completely separate columns to write from an interview with Peter MacKay.

One is about the middle-of-the-road, centrist Peter MacKay, and that probably won't help him with the red-meat-eating base he needs to court if he wants to clinch the Conservative Party leadership. That Peter MacKay showed up in an interview with The Globe and Mail last week over the phone from Thunder Bay.

So did the more combative, tough-on-crime Conservative who said he won't apologize for the parts of his victims' rights agenda that were struck down as unconstitutional, promised to get rid of the "unfair" carbon tax and took a chippy tone with a reporter challenging a vague answer. That Peter MacKay probably has a better chance to strike a chord with the rank and file.

Middle-of-the road Peter

MacKay talked about cutting taxes, but the same way as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau: He said he'd raise the basic personal amount exemption to take more people off the tax rolls, only go farther than Mr. Trudeau. He wants smaller government but won't point to anything specific that Ottawa would stop doing under a Peter MacKay government. Instead, he issued a standard promise of Liberals and Conservatives to review programs and tackle inefficiency.

Is he a China hawk? He didn't sound like one. He said relations are rough now, after China detained two Canadians as a "retaliatory act" for the arrest of Huawei chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou, but that it is important for Ottawa to work at the highest levels to improve that relationship. He even described Mr. Trudeau's new ambassador to China, Dominic Barton, as very able.

He's right: Mr. Barton, the former managing director of global consulting behemoth McKinsey & Co., is highly accomplished. But China hawks in the Conservative Party tend to view Mr. Barton war-

ily, suspecting his job is to appease Beijing in order to preserve commercial ties. Mr. MacKay's prescription is far from Andrew Scheer's suggestion that Canada keep China at a distance.

Sometimes he is in one position and its opposite, notably on climate change. The front-runner won't be nailed down on much except that he thinks carbon taxes are bad.

Mr. MacKay's words on China won't fire up the base. The Peter MacKay who can't name anything he'd cut from government is walking into the criticism of his adversaries. Durham MP Erin O'Toole, a heretofore middle-of-the-road Conservative who is positioning himself as a rock-ribbed, true-blue, populist conservative in the leadership race, has said Mr. MacKay would turn the Conservatives into "Liberal Party lite."

But then there's the tough-on-crime Peter MacKay who dismisses the carbon tax as elitist and gets his back up when challenged by a reporter.

He picks the Victims' Bill of Rights as his biggest accomplishment in government. He defended the victims' surcharge imposed for every conviction, which he made mandatory as justice minister – even though the Supreme Court struck it down as cruel and unusual punishment. "I will never apologize for having stood up for victims," he said.

That attitude seems more in tune with the conservative populist mood of his party. So is his condemnation of carbon taxes as being ineffective and unfair to people in rural areas who would pay more.

Which is the real Peter MacKay? Both. The tough-on-crime attitude has been in his political DNA since he was a Crown prosecutor. Unlike Mr. O'Toole, who seems to have made a tactical decision to shift ideology, Mr. MacKay has always stood in many places. His political instincts are instinctive. Mostly.

Sometimes he is in one position and its opposite, notably on climate change. The front-runner won't be nailed down on much except that he thinks carbon taxes are bad. He both dismisses the need for Canada to reduce emissions and says it is important to do so.

Would he adopt policies to reach current goals to reduce emissions by 30 per cent by 2030, or the Liberals' new target of "net-zero" by 2050? Those goals, he said, are "aspirational."

It is both an answer and not. It sounds like a goal to be strived for, but not reached. Or both. Or neither. Webster's defines aspirational as "having or showing a desire to achieve a high level of success or social status." When The Globe's Marieke Walsh noted his answer was not clear, Mr. MacKay said, "You don't get to tell me what my answer is. I'm telling you, it's aspirational."

So it is. Mr. MacKay is a Conservative front-runner who is running on electability – and after two decades in Conservative politics, his conservative identity is still hard to define.



Photo: Don Lindsay on the Chief Isadore Trail, BC. © Kyle Hamilton Photography

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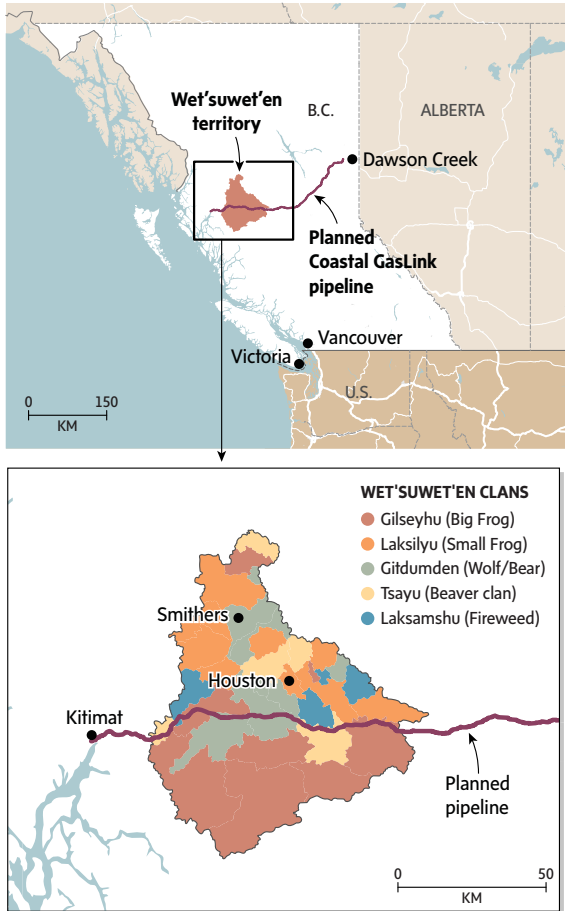
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WET’SUWET’EN TERRITORY AND COASTAL GASLINK PIPELINE



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: TILEZEN; OPENSTREETMAP CONTRIBUTORS; COASTAL GASLINK; OFFICE OF THE WET’SUWET’EN

Wet’suwet’en: The conflict has ‘brought out the worst in people’

■ FROM A1

The trip overlapped with talks between the Wet’suwet’en hereditary leadership and the federal and B.C. governments, which ended with a proposed agreement on Saturday.

The Skin Tyee call themselves “southsiders.” A 15-minute ferry ride – “the Francois Forester” – is the only way across. The cold, clean air smells of wood smoke and pine. Pot-belly stoves are still a main source of heating in the village, where tidy homes are ensconced in thigh-high snow. An independent streak typifies many here.

A little more than a quarter of the Skin Tyee’s 187 members live on-reserve. Most attended meetings with TC Energy, the company behind Coastal GasLink, says Ms. Wilson, who works at the local health station. Over five years, the two sides met dozens of times at the band office. Slowly, a consensus formed.

In 2014, the Skin Tyee became the first Wet’suwet’en nation to sign on to the \$6.6-billion, 670-kilometre pipeline. Neighbouring Nee Tahi Buhn First Nation, another eastern Wet’suwet’en community, was quick to join them.

Each nation received just shy of \$3-million from the province, part of the agreements they signed with Victoria. The money is locked up in trusts to fund training, education and cultural programming. Once fuel begins flowing from B.C.’s eastern gas fields to the Pacific port at Kitimat, both nations will receive annual dividends, like the other 18 First Nations along the route. (Bands also signed impact and benefit agreements with Coastal GasLink, the terms of which are not public but typically include provisions for jobs, training and other benefits.)

Ms. Wilson, a member of the Gilseyhu (Big Frog) clan, says support for the pipeline remains strong, both in Skin Tyee and Nee Tahi Buhn, where her daughter lives.

But elsewhere, Wet’suwet’en opinion is divided. Both sides of the debate remain deeply suspicious of the other, each believing their adversary has been “bought” – the antis by environmentalists and environmental NGOs, the pros by Big Oil. Each side, meanwhile, claims the other has been marshalled by outside forces to help secure national policy outcomes.

The fight, which is also exposing the continuing reality of racial bigotry facing Indigenous people, risks escalating into a full-blown national crisis involving reconciliation, the economy and the environment.

Next month, Ms. Wilson will start a new job as a construction monitor and community liaison with CGL. “I’ll go out every day with the crew to make sure they’re adhering to the environmental and cultural standards we set for them.” After two years, she plans to retire.

She is fiercely proud of her First Nation, which recently opened the newly renovated Tweedsmuir Hotel in neighbouring Burns Lake. A new healing lodge on Uncha Lake is under construction. She remains deeply connected to her clan’s territories in the Sibola Range, where they hunt moose and mountain goat and pick enough huckleberries, blueberries and salmonberries to last the winter.

But her family has stopped visiting their summer camp site at Morice Lake for years, ever since pipeline opponents erected a supply camp nearby. The arrests made there in February escalated a conflict that has been quietly simmering among the Wet’suwet’en for years.

The white-hot zone of conflict is the Witset First Nation, three hours west of here, on Highway 16. The lonely two-lane road snakes past vast, dark forests and fields criss-crossed with snowmobile tracks on its winding route to the Pacific Ocean. The area is remote, even by B.C. standards. So many women and girls have vanished or turned up dead along it that northerners have another name for it.

“Girls don’t hitchhike on the Highway of Tears,” a series of large, yellow billboards read. “Killer on the loose!”

The Witset, with a total membership reaching 2,050, are the most populous and politically powerful of the six Wet’suwet’en bands created by the Indian Act. (Five have signed on to the project; the Witset were the last to do so.) According to archaeologists, the village of Witset, a 40-minute drive from Smithers – the regional hub – has been continually inhabited for 6,000 years.

“Our way of life is everything for us,” says Simb’ yez Wilson, who grew up in Witset, which is still better known as Moricetown – its former name.

The land in question, home to some 25,000 people – of whom 5,000 are Wet’suwet’en – is magnificent. Dark valleys peel off from aquamarine rivers rich with sockeye, steelhead, kokanee and trout. Below snow-capped peaks are ancient forests of towering lodgepole pine and spruce, home to grizzly bears, caribou and moose. What you notice most under the vast Wet’suwet’en skies is the cathedral stillness of the place.

“These jobs are temporary. The resources don’t have a timeline,” the 21-year-old said after delivering a stirring banjo-soul performance at a benefit concert in nearby Smithers. Hand-painted signs in black and red – “Reconciliation Not Bullets!” and “Fracking gashole. Your backyard is next” – were given to the crowd.

There is urgency to their campaign. Some 46 per cent of the pipeline right-of-way has already been cleared, advancing on Wet’suwet’en territory from the east



Top: Gitxsan supporters set up a blockade on Highway 16 on Feb. 25 in support of Wet’suwet’en hereditary chiefs who oppose the Coastal GasLink pipeline project.

Above: A benefit show titled Wet’suwet’en Strong is held in Smithers, B.C., on Feb. 22. Hand-painted signs that read ‘Reconciliation Not Bullets!’ were handed out to the crowd.

Right: Crystal Smith, chief councillor of the Haisla Nation, says she has been labelled a ‘sellout’ for supporting the pipeline project.

and west. For now, only the mid-section, a 163-kilometre stretch running roughly from Skin Tyee to Morice Lake, remains untouched.

Between the Witset’s “pros” and “antis” is a large group of fence-sitters. Some support economic development, but worry about the environmental and political risks. With careers, friendships and marriages at stake, an even larger group is keeping mum.

“People are afraid to speak out,” Caryssa Nikal says. The 27-year-old business student knows this too well.

Her father is Barry Nikal, Witset’s former chief councillor, one of the best-known Wet’suwet’en

proponents of the projects. Her mother, Angeline Alfred, a Wet’suwet’en hereditary chief, is staunchly opposed.

The conflict has “brought out the worst in people,” she says. “It’s scary.”

Ms. Nikal says that after a recent incident at the Twin Valley Inn, a Smithers bar, she stopped going into town altogether. There, a man recognized her 22-year-old friend, who has spent time working security at the Unist’ot’en Camp – a protest site – and threw a drink on her.

Smithers, a quiet mountain town with vistas of the Babine and Telkwa Mountain Ranges, has come alive with the project. Its hotels and restaurants are

humming. A local truck rental has erected a massive sign reading “LNG CANADA” on the highway outside the city. “The largest private investment project in Canadian history deserves a cool sign, right?” says Fred Wilson, the owner of Northwest Truck Rentals Inc.

But the conflict is also re-energizing dormant anti-Indigenous sentiment and racism.

A sign reading “Yes to Jobs/It’s Time for BC to Idle No More!” was paint bombed, then removed.

In Smithers these days, “you feel like a drunken Indian walking into a redneck bar,” says hereditary house chief, Ron Mitchell (Hagwilnekhhlh).

“The racism was always there,”





Kitimaat Village, seen above on Feb. 23, is the home community of the Haisla First Nation near Kitimat, B.C. The First Nation was relocated there in 1952 to make way for an aluminum smelter built by Alcan.



he adds. “It never went away. At times like these, it surfaces.”

The Haisla can tell you how resource development used to work up north. In 1952, the coastal First Nation was relocated to Kitimaat Village on the western shore of Douglas Channel to make way for an aluminum smelter built by Alcan in Kitimat.

Growing up, says Haisla chief councillor, Crystal Smith, you had two options: “Alcan or become a teacher. There was nothing else.”

Many have labelled the millennial leader a “sellout,” and an “apple” – “First Nations on the outside, white on the inside,” she explains, rolling her eyes. She has been accused by other First Na-

tions people of sleeping with the chief executive of LNG Canada, and more.

Her support for the project is deeply felt. Her partner died by suicide several years ago, “forever changing me and my girls’ lives.”

Ms. Smith and her identical twin sister were raised in Kitimaat Village by their grandparents, both of whom were residential school survivors. “Growing up, addictions were constantly around me. Poverty? Yep. Sexual abuse? Been there. I don’t want our people to continue to live that life.”

Following years of negotiations and 86 meetings with TC Energy, the coastal band of 1,800 voted 92 per cent in favour of the project.

Gas will be liquefied and shipped overseas from Haisla territory, which is fronted by a deep-water fjord, home to killer whales, humpback whales, sea lions and salmon.

With revenue from development projects outstripping payments of federal money, the Haisla have been sending members to trade schools, law schools, even yoga-teacher training. Federal rules bar the band from funding all these because they are not four-year undergraduate programs.

It’s hard to overstate how much has changed. A decade ago, Haisla finances were in such dire straits that Ottawa nearly placed the band – whose mouldy offices had been repeatedly condemned – under third-party management.

A new elders’ centre is providing meals-on-wheels for elders in need.

A Haisla drug counsellor based in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside is caring for members trapped there by addictions. “My daughter gets to go down the channel for two weeks, to learn to gather our food and drum and sing and speak our language,” Ms. Smith says. None of these programs existed five years ago.

Seeing the Haisla access things most Canadians take for granted is deeply gratifying, Ms. Smith says. Her sister recently took out a mortgage, a first in her family. “I’ve never seen pictures of First Nations people with their feet on sandy beaches in Mexico before,” says Ms. Smith, who has left Canada only once, when she took her girls to Disneyland.

She breaks down every time she tries to describe the difference between her generation and the one coming of age today. “They have all the supports they

need. Alcan and teaching aren’t their only options.”

The conflict created by the Wet’suwet’en’s dual leadership structure – the hereditary chiefs versus the elected band councils – is well known.

But a third fault line emerged last week. A growing number of Wet’suwet’en claim that the hereditary leadership is not following their law, nor accurately reflecting the will of their people.

One-fifth of Wet’suwet’en hold chiefly titles. Those that do are known as either *deniize* (“real” or “only men”) and *tsalenze* (“real or only women”).

The voices of the *tsalenze* and matriarchs have been notably absent from discussion gripping the matrilineal community.

Several matriarchs claim they are being silenced and bullied, their opinions disregarded by the all-male leadership. Three female hereditary chiefs supportive of the pipeline were stripped of their chiefly titles.

This is not “*deni biits wa aden*” – “the way the feast works,” Rita George, a hereditary sub chief and expert in Wet’suwet’en law, told The Globe and Mail last week. The phrase is commonly used to describe the nation’s legal system.

The feast is the core of Wet’suwet’en society, its court, its parliament, its art gallery, its library. In the participatory democracy, hereditary chiefs are legally obliged to listen to their members.

Critics further claim that three of the eight hereditary house chiefs opposing Coastal GasLink are not Wet’suwet’en. Under Wet’suwet’en law, two are considered Gitxsan, and one is Babine, says Gary Naziel (Maxlalex’), a former Witset band councillor and a

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
JIMMY JEONG/
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

heavy-machine operator with Kyah Resources, which is subcontracted by CGL.

Fact-checking Wet’suwet’en claims over heritage is not easy. The nation’s legal code was handed down in unwritten records, mouth to mouth.

Two documents provide some answers. *Eagle Down* is *Our Law*, written by an anthropologist tasked by the Wet’suwet’en in the 1980s with providing an expert opinion in *Delgamuukw v. British Columbia*, a seminal land-claims case, is one. The testimony the late Johnny David (Maxlalex’) provided in *Delgamuukw* is another.

“Our law is that you belong to your mother’s side,” Chief Gaslebah is quoted in *Eagle Down*. “You can’t change that. Even if you want to, you can’t change your clan.”

Names and territories are transferred “through the mother’s side,” Mr. David told the court. “I follow my mother, not my father. I can use my father’s territory, but I can’t own it.”

Asked to respond to the claim, Frank Alec, who took the name Woos after it was stripped from Darlene Glaim, and who is said to be Babine, not Wet’suwet’en, said this: “I believe they’ve been fed a script. This is our territory. This is our responsibility. These are our duties. This is what we must do keep our clean air, water or culture and the freedoms that people enjoy.”

In a way, the conflict is as old as British Columbia.

Some anthropologists consider the Wet’suwet’en among the most elaborate hunter-gatherer societies north of Mexico, journalist Terry Glavin wrote in *A Death Feast in Dimlahamid*. The names and titles, which have been passed down for untold generations, are some of the oldest of any society on Earth.

The Wet’suwet’en, traditionally a semi-nomadic people, summered in villages in large, cool, cedar-planked homes, moving onto the lands in fall to hunt caribou, grouse and grizzlies. Come winter, they fished char and whitefish through lake ice, returning to their villages in summer to greet the returning salmon.

When B.C. joined Canada in 1871, Victoria claimed that it controlled all public lands, including the 22,000 square kilometres held by the Wet’suwet’en.

In reality, only the Douglas Treaties on Vancouver Island and Treaty 8 in northeastern B.C. were signed. Elsewhere, the land was never ceded. Canada’s terms of union with B.C. contained this central flaw.

In 1901, the province began giving away large parcels of “unoccupied, unclaimed” land belonging to the Wet’suwet’en.

The cleared, fenced land, Mr. David told the court in *Delgamuukw*, was anything but. It was taken, often while his people were away from their summer villages. Their homes and smokehouses – used to cure salmon – were “burned,” he added. When they protested, they were ignored or jailed.

The Wet’suwet’en were left without redress. Until 1951, it was illegal for First Nations people to hire a lawyer to fight land claims.

“If you know the territory well, it is like your own skin,” Mr. David, who died in 2018 at the age of 115, told the court. “Sometimes you can feel the animals moving on your body as they are on the land, the fish swimming in your bloodstream.”

His testimony in *Delgamuukw*, which took two years to deliver, indicated that the Wet’suwet’en have stewarded the northern territory roughly the size of New Jersey for thousands of years, and have an exclusive right to continue doing so. But in 1997, the Supreme Court stopped short of saying where this title exists. The questions were supposed to be resolved by treaty negotiations. Failures at the treaty table led directly to the current imbroglio.

“During *Delgamuukw*, we were united – nobody was against it,” says house chief Ron Mitchell. “Everyone stood behind the elders, the chiefs. We need to do what we did with *Delgamuukw*.”

But as the Wet’suwet’en are learning, achieving unity on issues around environmentally sensitive, financially lucrative resources projects is far less easy.

“The band chiefs and the hereditary chiefs are like the parents,” says Mr. Mitchell, who speaks for the Likhsilyu Clan.

“The people are the children. If mom and dad are fighting, the kids take sides. We need the two governments to come back together.

“That’s where we start.”

The subject who is truly loyal to the chief magistrate will neither advise nor submit to arbitrary measures - Junius

PHILLIP CRAWLEY
PUBLISHER AND CEO

DAVID WALMSLEY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What Beijing taught Ottawa about China

Last week, we learned that our long-standing criticism of the Trudeau government’s approach to dealing with China is now shared by none other than the Trudeau government – or at least by the members of the civil service charged with advising it.

Late last year, officials at Global Affairs prepared a briefing note on “how to approach relations with China.” The analysis of the relationship with the world’s second superpower was made public last week by the House of Commons Special Committee on Canada-China Relations. (The committee is one of the blessings of a minority Parliament.)

After years of seeing China as a land of rainbows and dollar signs, the government is no longer receiving advice from Fantasy Island. China’s retaliation for the arrest of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou, involving economic punishment and hostage-taking, has left Ottawa with no choice but to wise up.

“While Canada has long framed its China policy through the lens of economic opportunity,” the briefing note says, “it now needs to take account of Beijing’s long-term strategic challenge to Canadian interests and values.”

Indeed. This is welcome advice. It’s what we’ve been saying since the Trudeau government came to office.

In 2018, we described the government as suffering from China “delusions.” We said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s failure to kick-start free-trade talks with China in 2017 was a “blessing in disguise.”

That same year, we asked whether the government’s view of China was “as naive as it appears.”

“Does it get,” we wrote more than two years ago, “that China is not just an economic opportunity, but also a threat to the world order this country helped build, and under which we have long prospered? China is cast as the glittering business case at the top of every Davos PowerPoint presentation and the pot of gold at the end of every Team Canada trade mission rainbow, but the reality is a bit more complicated.”

The challenge stems from the fact that the People’s Republic of China is not a democratic regime. It doesn’t believe in elections, the rule of law or human rights.

Or, as the briefing note puts it: “The PRC promotes perspectives of governance, economic security and human rights that diverge in fundamental ways from Canada’s.”

What about the dream of reaching a free-trade agreement (FTA) with China, and doing so quickly, so as to gain economic advantage over our trading partners? The “Because It’s 2015” Trudeau government was all over that. The 2020 version, not so much.

“Exploratory discussions on a potential FTA with China suggest that achieving satisfactory outcomes in all areas of interest to Canada would be challenging,” concludes the brief. What’s more, “FTA negotiations are off the table for many like-minded partners, some of whom see pressure at the [World Trade Organization] as the best means of securing rules-based trade with China.”

Correct. A deal signed by many nations offers some hope of achieving “rules-based trade” with China. A bilateral deal, in contrast, is almost certain to be a losing proposition. Against a smaller partner, China will follow or ignore the letter of an agreement at its whim. Canada simply doesn’t have the weight to compel China to stick to terms, as was demonstrated when, in the wake of Ms. Meng’s arrest, Beijing lashed out at the Canadian economy and Canadian citizens.

To have a chance to come out winners, or at least not losers, in dealing with China, we need allies, and not just on trade. As the bureaucrats put it in their note, “As the PRC continues to bolster its assertive foreign policy demeanour, Canada must promote and defend its values in close partnership with like-minded allies and coalitions.”

However, Beijing knows how to play divide-and-conquer. “China has made a practice, especially in Asia, of driving wedges between the United States and its allies to mitigate its potential ‘containment,’” says the briefing note. “China has deployed variations of this strategy – wielding restrictions on market access and severing diplomatic engagement – against the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Norway and Sweden, among others.”

For more than a year, it has been doing likewise with Canada. That has been painful and costly. But in the long run, by forcing Ottawa to confront the reality of what the government of China is and how it operates, Beijing has done Canadians a favour.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAL OR NO DEAL

Re No Deal Offered To SNC Due To Severity Of Charges: Prosecutor (Feb. 28): After crafting a prosecution that resembles to me a deferred prosecution agreement in all but name, it seems evident that there was bowing to advice from some corner of the process that wanted a DPA.
■ **Bruce Henry** Waterloo, Ont.

I commend the high quality of service Canadians received in the SNC-Lavalin file from Kathleen Roussel, a woman I find to be of good judgment and integrity. One way for Justin Trudeau to close this file politically would be to acknowledge her contributions with an Order of Canada.
■ **Shaul Ezer** Vancouver

One of the hallmarks of parliamentary government is the impartial administration of our courts and judicial conduct. However, we have already seen attempted interference by Justin Trudeau and his staff with decisions made by the director of public prosecutions and the attorney-general in the SNC-Lavalin affair. In most Commonwealth countries, I believe the Prime Minister would have been forced to resign.

Now there are reports of partisan involvement in judicial appointments. I find this politicization of our courts unacceptable. And through further failure to adhere to the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and its guidance on Indigenous territories, it seems we are ignoring the core principles of our government and seeing an increasing Americanization of our system. The government has no mandate for such conduct.
■ **Thomas Wardle** Parksville, B.C.

PLEASE STAND UP

Re Subchief Lashes Out At Coastal GasLink (Feb. 28): Hereditary subchief Freda Huson compares Coastal GasLink to a vacuum salesman who won’t take no for an answer. All very well if Ms. Huson were the sole household-er. What if there were others in the home, and most of them wanted the vacuum?

In the continuing imbroglio over this pipeline, the desires of the Wet’suwet’en are not clear to me. Twenty elected band councils support the project. To what extent do they represent the will of the majority? That’s the missing piece of the puzzle, and the government should take further steps to find out.
■ **James Duthie** Nanaimo, B.C.

In understanding this dilemma, we should be careful about cultural relativism. While some culturally rooted institutions are adaptable to universal values, others are not. Human rights, for

example, are widely held as a universal value. And these rights can only be guaranteed under rule of law, which can only be consistently upheld in representative democracies. Thus for anyone who believes in universal human rights, elected leaders should have more legitimacy than hereditary ones.

In constitutional monarchies, these competing leadership traditions have been resolved by giving elected governments the power to govern, while keeping hereditary rulers as heads of state. The Huu-ay-aht First Nation has in fact adopted this model, and provides a useful template as to how this conflict can be resolved.

This is not to say that any of these systems are perfect. For example, there is no perfect electoral system and yet we elect our representatives. So how First Nations councils are elected and how they function should not be carved in stone, but they should not deviate from basic principles of representative government.
■ **Manuel Merfin** Calgary

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Re The Saga Continues (Letters, Feb. 28): Let’s hope that Ontario has higher aspirations for its education system than to match Texas, which ranks 33rd in the U.S. News and World Report education rankings. The top U.S. state for education, Massachusetts, pays an average teacher wage of US\$78,591 (about \$105,400).

But why compare Ontario to the U.S.? Finland often tops education rankings and, perhaps not coincidentally, values their teachers and pays them commensurately. They also have smaller class sizes and no standardized testing. We should aim for excellence.
■ **Angela Eady** Hamilton

OTTAWA AND TEHRAN

Re Ottawa Urged To Resume Diplomacy With Tehran Amid COVID-19 Outbreak (Feb. 28): Seldom has the case for renewal of fundamental diplomatic relations with Iran looked clearer. Whether pursuing critical evidence regarding Flight 752 and assisting affected Canadian families, or responding adequately to the coronavirus threat, Canada remains handicapped by its lack of on-site consular services, as the Iranian-Canadian Congress testifies.

Lacking continuous representation in Tehran also handicaps Canada over the long haul. There are many other difficult issues to be addressed, such as the 2012 Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act, which allows for the seizure and sale of Iran’s Canadian properties. However, events such as

Iran’s admission of fault regarding Flight 752 provide a significant advance. A positive response from the Trudeau government to the Iranian Canadian Congress, and the pursuit of bilateral talks, would be a useful follow-up.
■ **John Foster** Nepean, Ont.

CARBON ALTERNATIVES

Re Canada Must Boost Foreign Aid For Feminist Agenda To Have Sustained Impact, Experts Say (Feb. 26): I wonder if people realize how powerful education for girls and funding for family planning can be in fighting climate change. In Paul Hawken’s 2017 book *Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*, he researches the top 100 substantive solutions for addressing carbon in our atmosphere. Of all the solutions he studied, it was the combination of educating girls and family planning that ranked No. 1 (in gigatons of avoided or sequestered carbon).

Canada’s policy of feminist international assistance seems right on – it’s actually a climate policy and we didn’t even know it. I hope it continues to be funded well.
■ **Jenny Allen** Midhurst, Ont.

TAX SEASON

Re Yes, You Can Invest Too Much In An RRSP (Report on Business, Feb. 27): The example of a 65-year-old retiree with \$2.5-million in an RRSP having to take out the minimum of 4 per cent when it is converted to an RRIF (about \$100,000), and thus having his OAS clawed back, is not a hard-luck story. He should be happy to not be taking unnecessary government handouts; to, in fact, contribute more to the running of the country by paying taxes.

He should be thankful for his good fortune to be, just based on income from an RRIF, in the top 10 per cent of Canadian earners.
■ **Tony Bull** Ottawa

Re RCMP To Stop Providing Security For Prince Harry And Meghan (Feb. 28): It’s tax time again and I am missing a couple of tax slips: One for my charitable donation to keep Harry and Meghan safe while living here, and another for my contribution to that pipe dream – pardon me, pipeline. The one that was a goodbye – pardon me again, a good buy.
■ **Joe Spence** Ottawa

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The real partisanship problem in politics

The U.S. and U.K. show what can happen when leaders decide their personal agenda matters more than the team

SCOTT REID

 OPINION

Political analyst and principal at Feschuk Reid, and served as director of communications to prime minister Paul Martin

The problem with politics these days is the alarming absence of party loyalty. That might come as a shock to those who view the creep of overt partisanship with despair. But lost in that analysis is the fact that party ties don't just bind partisans together, they help to strap down our entire political system – an essential, cohering function that is increasingly under duress. In fact, the erosion of party loyalty risks causing severe damage to our democratic traditions and speeding us even faster down a

road where elected leaders recognize little obligation toward the political machines that deliver them into office, and therefore respect increasingly fewer constraints on their own exercise of power. If left unchecked, this trend will inevitably produce more leaders of a certain sort: self-indulgent, isolated and even despotic in their tendencies. The United States, not surprisingly, is the most immediate example of this concern. Two of the candidates most likely to emerge as the Democratic presidential nominee are running in defiance of, as much as in service to, that party's history and conventions. Senator Bernie Sanders, who was first elected to office as mayor of Burlington, Vt., by unseating a Democratic incumbent, has sat in Congress for decades as an independent. He has rarely displayed a willingness to suffer the sacrifices and compromises required of those who play the team sport of party politics. His campaign for the presidential nomination today, as it was in 2016, is a takeover bid – plain and simple. Mike Bloomberg is just as con-

cerning. A former Republican, he operates so solitarily that his only visible contribution to the Democratic Party appears to come from his cheque book. He has barely participated in the nomination process beyond the purchase of advertising, one historically atrocious debate performance and some splendid punking of Mr. Trump on social media. The Republicans are an even greater catastrophe. The shameless farce of President Donald Trump's impeachment trial was roundly condemned as an example of excessive partisanship. In reality, it was a monumental, even suicidal, betrayal of party unity. Each of those senators placed Mr. Trump's personal interests ahead of the collective interests of the GOP. In November, these Republicans – who used to argue for fiscal rectitude, smaller government and a robust foreign policy – will stand for election, emasculated and inscrutable with no guiding beliefs beyond what they learn from Mr. Trump via Twitter tantrums. So far, Canada has largely avoided this failing. Justin Trudeau served alongside caucus colleagues for years before becoming

leader. The same can be said for Conservatives, such as departing leader Andrew Scheer, and front-runners Peter MacKay and Erin O'Toole. If anything, Canadian voters have tended to punish seeming carpetbaggers in recent years, such as Michael Ignatieff and Tom Mulcair. Still, this threat reaches beyond the United States. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson displays open disdain for the history and conventions of the political party he now leads. His rule has been punctuated by the expulsion of Conservative Party stalwarts and the condemnation of loyalty to any cause beyond that of which he approves. Brexit is a symptom, not a cause, of his leadership style. Obviously, independence is not an inherent vice. Free-thinkers are needed within political parties to challenge stale ideas and unleash renewal. What might the 20th century have looked like without the iron example of the party-switching Winston Churchill? But let's not be surprised when leaders, who lack any sense of project beyond their own self, who live their lives as free agents, and not team players, lack the empathy and perspective necessary

to make decisions in the public interest. We often complain about politicians who fail to put country before party. Yet we fail to recognize the risks of propelling those to office who have never been required to put party before self. Those who concede to the discipline of party loyalty and who occasionally quiet their own voice in service to a wider chorus, develop certain skills and accumulate certain lessons. It just might be that these same skills and lessons help to teach our leaders that the advancement of one's own agenda is not always the only thing that matters. Such education might come in awfully handy when, having been rewarded with power, we hope that these same leaders might govern within some fence-line of norms other than their own personal satisfaction. Healthy and effective political parties produce better political leaders. And by teaching leaders the value of loyalty beyond themselves, even when that manifests as partisanship, our political parties serve a vital public service that is needed now more than ever.

The folly of Donald Trump's Middle East peace plan

NIMROD BARKAN
JON ALLEN

 OPINION

Nimrod Barkan is an Israeli diplomat who served as Israel's ambassador to Canada from 2016 to 2019. Jon Allen is a senior fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. From 2006 to 2010, he was the Canadian ambassador to Israel.



U.S. President Donald Trump stands behind Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as they deliver joint remarks on a Middle East peace plan proposal in Washington on Jan. 28. JOSHUA ROBERTS/REUTERS

‘Shun evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it.’ This verse, from the book of Psalms, encapsulates the Jewish values which have guided us for thousands of years. It also characterizes the policy Israel should aspire toward – one that realizes the Zionist dream of building a successful state, fully integrated within its Middle Eastern neighbourhood, where its citizens can live in peace, security and dignity. This dream is threatened by U.S. President Donald Trump administration's “peace plan.” The policy gives all of Jerusalem to Israel, creates a non-contiguous set of territories in lieu of a viable state, allows the annexation of existing settlements and the Jordan Valley and allows Israel to control the airspace, borders and seas of the so-called new Palestinian State. In cynically exploiting the idea of a two-state solution – which has been the basis for the international community's policy regarding Israel and the Palestinians for several decades – a coalition of supporters of Mr. Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu now seeks to entrench the opposite policy. The plan would take peace off the table for good in exchange for per-

petual occupation. Having served as professional diplomats in our own and in each other's countries, we are able to say, with great sadness but with certainty, that the Trump administration is not advancing the interests of the State of Israel. Rather, its plan serves only those who believe in the dangerous fantasy of a “Greater Israel,” as well as the whims of two influential communities – extreme U.S. evangelical Christians on one side of the ocean and the most fundamentalist settlers on the other – on whom the two leaders' political careers, tainted by allegations and investigations, now depend on. The dangers posed by the plan are twofold: Firstly, it advances annexation

in a highly cynical effort to strengthen Israel's control over the West Bank. Similar to other unilateral actions taken by the Trump administration in the region – including recognizing Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem – the plan seeks to entrench Israel's control over land on which it has built settlements since 1967. However, one look at the map is enough to see that this will mean permanent fragmentation, creating islands of secluded Palestinian autonomy permanently dependent on the goodwill of the country that surrounds them. Mr. Netanyahu quickly announced he would proceed to annex these territories. If it weren't for Jared Kushner, designated by Mr.

Trump to formulate a deal to solve the conflict, urging Mr. Netanyahu to wait until after Monday's general election, the annexation of large swaths of the West Bank would already be in place. Second, if implemented, this plan will irreparably damage Israel's international standing. The most important institutions – from the United Nations and the European Union to the Arab League – have drafted and ratified countless resolutions calling for a two-state solution based on the 1967 ceasefire lines. Until now, the international community's relative willingness to tolerate, the current reality in the occupied territories has been based on the pretense that it is only temporary. The Trump plan declares plainly that the “temporary” occupation

is to be replaced by a permanent military regime, which does not come with full rights for those living under its control. This will never be tolerable in the eyes of liberal democratic countries to which Israel seeks to belong. Ultimately, it will not be Mr. Trump who pays the price for his arrogance and pretentiousness – as he will vacate the White House sooner or later – but Israel. The Trump plan represents a serious blow to the values shared by our countries, and the further the plan is advanced, the worse the damage. These values include the right to self-determination. That has been, from the very beginning, the main justification employed by the modern Zionist movement; the very same argument should justify the rights of the Palestinian people to realize their own aspirations. For Israel's sake, and for the sake of its continued security and prosperity, we must answer Mr. Trump with a resounding “no.” Instead, we must demand a pragmatic, ethical model – the only way forward that ensures a peace plan for the region. Plans for annexation must be met with concrete steps toward ending the occupation. We must strive to embark on a proper, meaningful peace process that would ensure a just and viable solution to the conflict. We don't even have to go as far back as the book of Psalms; we can apply the principles found in Israel's own declaration of independence: “We extend our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness.” This is the time for true friends of Israel to remember and remind their ally that the Jewish state's interests would be served best by the swift implementation of this noble vision.

The horrifying reality in Syria: Even the rules of war are ignored

JOE BELLIVEAU

 OPINION

The executive director of Doctors Without Borders/MSF Canada

Last week, a series of deadly aerial assaults and shelling attacks, which were undoubtedly conducted by Syrian government forces, devastated Idlib, one of the last remaining areas still not under the control of the government. The attackers drew no distinction between military and civilian targets: On Tuesday, when bombs and shells began to rain down in places such as Idlib and the town of Mareet Misrin, they fell on schools, kindergartens and other places where hundreds of people, including whole families, had sought shelter and safety. Hundreds of thousands of people have been forcibly displaced from their homes in northwest Syria in recent months. Doctors Without Borders/Mé-

decins Sans Frontières (MSF) provides support for primary and secondary health care in hospitals around Idlib and Aleppo. As the attacks began on Tuesday, three MSF-supported hospitals began reporting a sudden influx of dead and wounded. “It was a difficult, bloody and rough day,” a surgeon at Idlib Surgical Hospital told the MSF support team. “Fifty per cent [of patients and casualties received] were children and women. It was a hysterical situation in the city, along with the sound of bombings and the sound of sirens leading people to a state of panic.” Medical staff also recounted how they themselves were seemingly in the line of fire, with shells striking within 100 metres of two of the hospitals MSF supports and injuring some medical staff. This is an abomination. The Geneva Conventions, the international rules of war, are clear: Targeting – or even failing to protect – civilians, medical caregivers or civilian infrastructure such as schools and hospitals is a crime.

Syria and its allies, such as Russia, are legally bound by these conventions. The attacks in Idlib, launched in densely populated civilian areas among already displaced and vulnerable people and in the middle of winter, violate the most basic principles of humanity, and blatantly flout the framework that we as members of the international community have built to prevent the worst atrocities of conflict. The travesty of the Idlib attacks this week resonate particularly hard with those of us whose work it is to deliver humanitarian medical care to people in crisis. As my colleague Cristiane Reynders, who is MSF's field co-ordinator in northwest Syria, told us this week, “This is our job, our purpose. And we are doing it ... But what can we do when hospitals are being bombed? Just [watch] as spectators? ... We are facing – we can call it a human crisis, a humanity crisis, I don't know.” It would be easy to dismiss these sentiments, and the ap-

peals of MSF and others to the principles of international humanitarian law, as naive. After all, the war in Syria has been the scene of relentless slaughter for almost a decade now, with millions displaced and no shortage of horrific acts attributed to all sides of the conflict and their international allies. In every instance of previously unprecedented brutality that our teams and those they support have witnessed in Syria, MSF has called upon all parties to the conflict to stop attacking civilians and to respect the rules of war. We have done so at every level, and at every multinational forum available, including at the United Nations Security Council. And still the atrocities continue. We are not naive. MSF and others work around the world providing emergency care to people affected by some of the worst humanitarian crises, including in places caught up in seemingly intractable violence and conflict. We come face to face with the human capacity for brutality on a

daily basis. Fighting for a space of humanity in the midst of war is everything we stand for. The global consensus on international humanitarian law and the rules of war that were developed last century help protect our work saving lives even in the world's worst crisis zones. By standing up for basic humanitarian principles and the rules of war, Canada and other governments can demonstrate their commitment to one of the cornerstones of our international order: the protection of non-combatants in a war. MSF cannot stop the bombing taking place right now in Idlib. We can treat the wounded, and we can cry out in frustration. But we cannot stop the assaults. Neither can the Canadian government on its own, or Canadians themselves. Others, however, can. We can and should hold them to account for their actions, and continue to insist that even war has rules – and that we are determined to uphold them.

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 South of France Itinerary

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11
June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29	June 30
Lyon	Tournus	Chalon	Tain l'Hermitage	Avignon	Avignon	Tarascon	Viviers	Lyon	Lyon	Lyon

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Talking back to Alzheimer’s disease

New research suggests bilingualism may help delay some symptoms of cognitive decline

WENCY LEUNG HEALTH REPORTER

From Sudoku to high-intensity workouts to playing the trombone, there are countless ways to challenge the brain – and maybe even stave off Alzheimer’s disease in the process. But according to a new study, speaking a second language may hold the real superpower when it comes to delaying cognitive decline. In the study, published last month in the journal *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders*, Toronto researchers found bilingual people with mild cognitive impairment or slight, but noticeable changes in mental function, progressed to advanced Alzheimer’s disease more rapidly than their monolingual counterparts. These findings support the

idea that bilinguals may be able to live with Alzheimer’s disease in their brains for years, but function as though they do not, said co-author Ellen Bialystok, a distinguished research professor in York University’s department of psychology. This study builds on her previous research, suggesting bilingualism appears to increase people’s cognitive reserve – that is, their brain’s ability to withstand damage and decline. As the disease progresses, however, and they are no longer able to compensate, “at some point, they’re going to deteriorate faster because they’re coping with substantially more disease,” she said. When it comes to lifestyle activities that build cognitive reserve, language is particularly stimulating because we use it throughout our waking hours and it engages all parts of the brain, Bialystok said. But beyond that, people who know more than one language always have them available to them. There’s no switching one language off, she said, which means,

even though they may not be aware of it, bilinguals are constantly selecting the language they need. “That kind of selection is an ongoing cognitive demand of bilingualism,” Bialystok said. In their latest study, conducted at Baycrest Health Sciences in Toronto, she and her team examined the patient records of 83 monolingual and 75 bilingual participants. While the team’s previous research has shown bilinguals were, on average, four years older than monolinguals when they received a dementia diagnosis, the participants of this study did not differ in age when they were eventually diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. However, those in the bilingual group were about two years older, on average, than the monolingual group at the time of their mild cognitive impairment diagnosis. The researchers found that it took an average of about 1.9 years for the bilingual participants to progress from mild cognitive impairment to an Alzheimer’s disease diagnosis, while for

monolingual participants, it took an average of about 2.6 years. This suggests even though the two groups were matched at the start of the study in terms of their clinical symptoms, the bilingual patients were likely dealing with a greater level of disease, Bialystok said. Illustrated on a graph, here’s what the two groups look like: A short platform with a gradual decline represents the cognitive function of the monolinguals, while a higher cliff, representing the bilingual participants with their higher cognitive reserve, ends in a steeper plunge. At the University of Ottawa’s school of psychology, associate professor Vanessa Taler, who was not involved in the study, said she was excited by these findings, as they are consistent with previous research in the area. Taler said it would be interesting to examine whether bilingualism has a protective effect for individuals with different subtypes of mild cognitive impairment. (Mild cognitive impairment is a very unstable concept, she said, as not all patients go on to develop de-

mentia, while some even return to normal cognition.) The age someone begins speaking a second language, how well and how often they use it, and which languages they speak, are other factors that may affect cognitive reserve, she said, but more study is needed. “It’s cutting-edge work in this area, so that’s where we start,” she said. Back in Toronto, Bialystok said people often ask whether it’s too late for them to learn a second language. Her answer: It’s unlikely for anyone to become fluent if they start studying another language late in life, so they would not get the same boost in cognitive reserve as a life-long bilingual speaker. Nevertheless, she emphasized, anything that is challenging is good for the brain. “As long as you’re using your brain in stimulating ways, you’re helping cognitive reserve,” she said. “If not language, then just make sure you’re doing something.”



ISTOCK

Is there a link between dairy and breast cancer?

LESLIE BECK
OPINION



Many studies have tied lifestyle factors such as body weight, alcohol consumption and physical activity to breast-cancer risk. Findings from studies examining dietary factors, though, have been inconsistent. Dairy has been hypothesized to increase the risk, while soy foods are thought to help lower it. But, so far, there’s no clear-cut evidence that either theory is correct. Now, findings from a large study suggest that cow’s milk, a beverage we’ve long been told to drink for our bones, increases breast-cancer risk. And swapping soy milk for dairy may offset that risk.

THE LATEST RESEARCH

The findings, published last week in the *International Journal of Epidemiology*, come from the Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2), a continuing investigation of the link between diet and cancer among 96,000 Seventh-day Adventists living in the United States and Canada. Nearly 40 per cent of the AHS-2 population are vegan (no meat, fish, eggs or dairy) or lacto-ovo vegetarian (eggs and dairy are allowed) and often eat soy as a protein source. For this study, the researchers examined the diets of 52,795 female participants, with an average age of 57, who were initially cancer-free. After eight years of follow-up, 1,057 women had developed breast cancer. Compared with women who drank very little or no cow’s milk, drinking one cup (250 ml) a day, either low-fat or full-fat, was tied to a 50-per-cent greater risk of breast cancer.

Even drinking less than one cup of milk, compared with none, was associated with an increased risk. Cheese and yogurt were not linked to breast-cancer risk. The researchers accounted for other factors associated with the risk including age, family history, alcohol intake, physical activity and body weight. Intake of red and processed meat, fish, poultry, soy foods and nuts/seeds were also considered. Soy foods and soy milk did not increase or decrease breast-cancer risk. The findings also hinted that if you’re a regular milk drinker, replacing some of it with soy milk could lower the risk of breast cancer.

MAINTAINING PERSPECTIVE

Drinking one cup of milk a day, compared with none, was found to raise the risk of breast cancer by 50 per cent. This doesn’t mean, though, that a woman’s personal risk for developing breast cancer was 50-per-cent higher. In North America, a woman with no known risk factors has a 1 in 8 chance of developing breast cancer in her lifetime, a 12-per-cent personal risk. A 50-per-cent increase, then, raises a woman’s personal risk to 18 per cent.

STRENGTHS, LIMITATIONS, PLAUSIBILITY

A credit to the study is its large and ethnically diverse sample size. It also included a wide range of dairy and milk consumption, from none to a lot, which is necessary to capture an effect. Weaknesses included the study’s observational design, which can’t prove that drinking milk directly causes breast cancer; it can only uncover

associations. Participants’ diets were self-reported, therefore subject to error, and were measured only once, at the onset of the study. However, it was revealed that most participants adhered to their dietary regimes for a decade or longer. Despite the limitations, there are plausible ways in which cow’s milk could increase breast-cancer risk. Dairy cows are lactating and about 75 per cent of the herd is pregnant, which means that estrogen and progesterone end up in cow’s milk. Since breast cancer is a hormone-sensitive cancer, it’s possible that consuming bovine sex hormones in milk influences breast-cancer risk. Consuming dairy and other animal foods has also been shown to increase blood levels of insulin-like growth factor-1, a hormone thought to promote certain cancers.

WHAT TO DO?

These new findings do not warrant giving up cow’s milk. This is only one study, and while it does suggest that something is going on, further studies are needed to establish if, indeed, drinking cow’s milk increases breast-cancer risk. Dairy is a key component of a blood-pressure-lowering diet, and it also appears to help guard against colorectal cancer. That said, women who have a higher risk of breast cancer because of family history or other factors could consider switching to a calcium-fortified plant beverage. Among these milk alternatives, only soy milk and pea milk match the protein content of cow’s milk.

Leslie Beck, a Toronto-based private practice dietitian, is director of food and nutrition at Medcan.

Harnessing the power of a midafternoon nap

PAUL LANDINI
OPINION



Suspend your skepticism for a moment, and imagine a powerful new performance aid that boosts your physical power, improves your reaction time and decision-making, and protects you against oxidative stress and muscle damage. In exchange for those benefits, would you be willing to tolerate a few minor side effects – such as, say, bed head? That’s the bargain offered in a new study of midafternoon naps, published in the *International Journal of Sports Physiology and Performance* by a research team at universities in Tunisia and France. The findings add fuel to a continuing debate about the performance benefits of napping, but they also offer a reminder that getting it right isn’t as simple as it seems.

The study involved nine judo athletes, who completed a series of tests under four different conditions: after a night of regular sleep; after a night where sleep was restricted to 4.5 hours; with sleep restriction, plus a short 20-minute nap; and with sleep restriction, plus a longer, 90-minute nap. The outcome measures involved a series of short sprints, computer-based reaction and decision tests, and blood sampling to measure muscle damage and oxidative stress. On the surface, the results were fairly straightforward: A night of short sleep hurt all the performance and health measurements, and an afternoon nap partly or fully restored them.

That’s what you’d expect based on previous research – but there are some interesting new wrinkles, according to Anthony Blanchfield, a psychophysiology at Bangor University in Britain, who has studied napping in athletes and was not involved in the Tunisian study. “The finding that napping in athletes can specifically attenuate some of the markers that are linked to oxidative damage and muscle damage is novel,” he wrote in an e-mail. Over the past few decades, sleep researchers have accumulated evidence that getting less sleep than you need has effects throughout the body, pumping up stress hormones, suppressing immune function and promoting systemic inflammation that raises the risk of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. But whether a brief afternoon nap is enough to reverse these negative effects remains unclear.

One key aspect of the Tunisian study is that the naps came after a night of partial sleep deprivation. That might be applicable if, for example, you’ve had a restless night before a big competition, but it’s less clear that the nap would have similar benefits after a normal night of sleep. In a 2018 study led by Blanchfield and his colleague Sam Oliver, runners completed a pair of time-to-exhaustion tests on a treadmill, once with a 40-minute nap opportunity finishing 90 minutes beforehand, and once without. The overall results showed no performance benefit from napping. But a closer look found that the runners who improved with a nap had averaged 6.4 hours of sleep the night before, while those who saw no improvement had averaged 7.5 hours.

“It seems likely that a nap is most effective when an athlete encounters some form of sleep disruption the night before exercise,” Blanchfield says, “or in those sports where early-morning training is standard practice – for instance, swimming.” The duration of the nap also matters. In the Tunisian study, the 90-minute nap produced better results in the sprint test and had more antioxidant effects. The 20-minute nap, on the other hand, led to better scores in the reaction time and decision-making test, perhaps because waking up from a deeper sleep leaves you feeling groggy for longer. That’s why Charles Samuels, the head of the Centre for Sleep and Human Performance in Calgary, typically recommends limiting naps to between 15 and 30 minutes unless you’re trying to make up for an acute bout of missed sleep or travel fatigue. At a conference for Canadian Olympic team staff last fall, he suggested having a coffee before starting this kind of ultrabrief nap, to help kick-start your alertness when you wake up. And if the logistics of such a short nap seem daunting, Samuels had some reassuring words. “When I say nap, I mean lying down, eyes closed, deep breathing,” he said. “I couldn’t care less if you sleep. This is about brain rest.”

Alex Hutchinson is the author of *Endure: Mind, Body, and the Curiously Elastic Limits of Human Performance*. Follow him on Twitter @sweatscience.

FIRST PERSON

APPRECIATING LIFE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES



ILLUSTRATION BY DREW SHANNON

An unexplained, anxiety-inducing affliction had me more grateful for the little moments, **Suzy Royle** writes

It's often been said that without darkness, there is no light. Or, at least, without the contrast of dark, light appears less bright. More and more in my life, I am finding this to be true.

Just more than three years ago, everything was going well, but I didn't feel exactly happy. I was content-ish. Things were fine, but I was too busy chasing better to appreciate things as they were.

Then my health began to waver. I woke up one morning with a numb hand. Then I started twitching. Symptom after strange symptom accrued and before long, I was seeing doctors more often than my friends. Recklessly, I googled my symptoms and became semi-convinced I had a fatal disease. Sleep evaded me. I lived in a strange nether world of uncertainty, anxiety, exhaustion and terror. Each day felt like three.

As I awaited further testing, the murk of everyday striving and busy-ness lifted. Things became very clear. I didn't know what my life would look like in three months, but I had right now. So I began actively enjoying it.

I got down on the floor and played with my boys more. Instead of rolling my eyes over the interminable process of getting them to bed each night, I relished their cuddles and questions and sweet avowals. I said "I love you" whenever I felt it, even if I'd said it only five minutes before. I paused to feel the sun wash my face in warmth. I ate the cookie.

I was more mindful of how I spent my minutes, uncertain of how many more I might have. As much as I longed to return to my presymptom life, I couldn't deny the unintentional resonance they lent my existence. By being sick, I felt like a new person, reawakened to the imperfect joys of being alive.

It didn't last. Months after the onset of my mysterious symptoms, my tests came back clear. Every single one. Doctors shrugged and sent me on my way. My symptoms persisted, but with the dire possibilities ruled out, I could at least sleep again. With my doctor's blessing, I gradually discontinued a medication I'd been taking for years, hoping it to be the culprit. Over the next two years, my symptoms nearly resolved. My doctor figured the medication had been at least partly responsible.

I stopped googling. I relaxed a little. I relaxed a lot. And I got sucked back into the minutiae of everyday life: renovations, navigating schoolyard slights, social-media FOMO and the never-ending quandary of what to make for dinner.

I forgot to appreciate the blessings in my life. My mindfulness muscle atrophied. It was as though without my hackles raised against impending death, I was unable to fully savour living.

The symptoms started again a few months ago. I was sitting on the floor the day before Halloween, painting my son's robot costume, and my foot started tingling. It felt like an inchworm wiggling around under my skin. At first, I shrugged it off as a weird, one-off sensation, but it intensified and ascended my body as other symptoms developed. Numbness. Pain.

I found myself back in my doctor's office. Again, the battery of blood work. The requisitions. The waiting. The uncertainty. The sleeplessness. The fear. But something else is back, too. Gratitude. Attuned appreciation for all that is bright in my life. With the threat of illness looming and the possibility of a grim diagnosis, I am able to skim over the blah or not so great and zero in on the light, the lovely, the essential. Because, again, I've realized I don't have time to entertain anything else.

My children's incessant arguing annoys me less as I focus on the funny zingers that fall from their lips. Being kitchen-less for four months and counting in a problem-fraught renovation strikes me as no biggie, given that it will eventually be finished, and in the meantime I have electricity, heat, running water and a roof over my head. Instead of dreading the push-ups in my workouts, I celebrate the fact that I am still able to do them.

Before Christmas, I splashed out on the expensive seats for *The Nutcracker*. No one knows what the future holds, and even if I'm healthy and able, my son may be over ballet soon. I am saying yes to my kids' requests for treats (I'll worry about their teeth after Easter). As someone who tends to avert her gaze every few seconds, lately I've caught myself looking people in the eye. Willingly.

I am also focusing on serving others in any way I can. Several friends are going through tough family situations. One just had a miscarriage. Providing help and comfort to others helps and comforts me.

My birthday is coming up. My husband will undoubtedly ask what I might like as a gift. Normally, I could provide several options, but this year I don't desire any *thing*; all I want is good health and more time.

My symptoms are a constant reminder of what might be or what might be lost. My mind is still a minefield I can't evade, but I am staying off Google. Mostly.

Ironically, my only escape is the present. I am sinking into it more than ever and feeling happier than I can recall.

Suzy Royle lives in Perth, Ont.

CBC is at its weakest in a generation, but radical change isn't the answer

JOHN DOYLE

OPINION



TELEVISION

Another week, another fuss about the CBC. In a confusing and ceaselessly changing world, it's heartwarming that you can rely on a fuss about the CBC coming at regular intervals.

On this occasion, it's the abrupt departure of Jennifer McGuire, general manager and editor-in-chief of CBC News since 2009. McGuire was responsible for English-language news content and programming across the public broadcaster's multiple platforms. The announcement came on Thursday and McGuire's last day was Friday.

What's that about? Probably the mess that has been the tinkering with *The National*. If only CBC TV's flagship news broadcast had as many viewers as there are Twitter warriors claiming Liberal bias on the CBC's part. But it doesn't. *The National* is now a zombie newscast, half-dead and lurching along.

In the larger picture, I will assert here what I told a group of journalism students (I was a guest speaker, not a professor) last month: CBC TV is at its weakest point in a generation. It also has the weakest leadership in a generation, in president Catherine Tait and in Barbara Williams, vice-president of English services in charge of English-language TV, radio and digital services. Look at the needless confusion over production deals with Netflix. Plus the frantic attempts to establish *Family Feud Canada* as a money-making hit. Look at the parking of CBC documentaries – the CBC's jewels – in the worst possible time slots. And look at those endless adjustments to *The National*. All these factors suggest a leadership that is clueless.

Into the frame, of course, come the people with radical solutions for the CBC. Writing in the *Toronto Star*, former CBC News executive Tony Burman quotes with approval a new book, *The End of the CBC?*, written by journalism professors David Taras and Christopher Waddell. The gist of the suggested radical makeover of the CBC is this – get rid of sports, cancel drama and scrap advertising.

Now, I have a lot of time for Burman and respect his achievements and views. But: No, no and no. The last thing this country needs is a CBC aiming to please journalism professors.

In the matter of sports, CBC TV should have Olympics coverage and coverage of our national men's and women's teams. Canadian taxpayers fund a great deal of sports in Canada and the very idea that the public broadcaster can dodge coverage of what we fund is reprehensible. In particular, the public broadcaster should be offering more, not less, women's sports. That's part of its public-service job.

Recently, CBC TV has a poor record in drama and a middling one in comedy. But throwing away the production of both genres is madness. A vast ecosystem, a work force of creative people in Canada, depends on CBC TV production. The real issue with CBC drama and comedy is mediocrity. As I've often pointed out, what exactly has Canada contributed to this golden age of excellence on TV? Almost nothing.

The fact is, current CBC top management has no grasp of excellence. A less radical solution to what the two J-school professors suggest is doing less drama, but aiming for greatness. If that means quality over quantity, fine. Besides, I'm not sure Los Angeles has room enough to hold the vast army of bitter Canadian creatives who would assemble there if CBC TV cancelled scripted programming.

Getting rid of advertising on CBC TV sounds peachy. But the sudden loss of revenue would be catastrophic. There are other solutions. In Germany, the public broadcaster ZDF has limited advertising and sponsorship, but they still exist as additional sources of funding. Commercials are legally restricted to a maximum number of minutes a day on weekdays, and no commercials are broadcast after 8 p.m. or on Sundays and public holidays. How hard can it be to move toward that model with CBC TV?

Since the BBC was launched almost 100 years ago and then other countries launched their own public-broadcasting services, politicians and public intellectuals have endeavored to diminish publicly funded broadcasters, or control them. It's hard to know, in Canada, whether the politicians or the public intellectuals have done the most damage. Right now, with the fuss about the departure of the CBC's top news executive, one could say the damage is being done from within.

As a journalist, a citizen and a taxpayer, I believe firmly in the importance of our public broadcaster. This country would be impoverished intellectually and culturally without it. It needs to be better and better-run. Do-better isn't the most radical solution, but it's the best, heartwarming hope.

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TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

TODAY'S KENKEN SOLUTION

5	3+	2	1-	10x	6	3
3+	1	2	4	5	3-	6
6x	2	3	5	6+	2÷	1-
10+	6	4	1	3	20x	5
7+	4	6	3	2	5	1
3	5	6	1	4	2	2



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WORLD FORECAST

	TODAY	TUES.	WED.
AMSTERDAM	8/2R	8/2R	8/1PC
ATHENS	16/12PC	18/13PC	15/9R
BANGKOK	33/27PC	34/28S	33/26T
BEIJING	11/-2S	9/-2S	8/-2S
BERLIN	9/3R	8/-1R	9/1PC
BRUSSELS	9/1R	7/3R	8/-1R
COPENHAGEN	6/4PC	6/2R	7/2PC
FRANKFURT	10/3PC	7/-2R	7/0PC
HONG KONG	20/18PC	20/19PC	20/17PC
JERUSALEM	12/7PC	17/10S	20/11S
LAS VEGAS	17/9PC	20/9S	21/11S
LONDON	9/3PC	10/3R	10/2PC
LOS ANGELES	21/13S	26/13S	24/14S
MADRID	12/5R	13/9PC	17/10PC
MIAMI BEACH	23/22PC	25/24R	26/25PC
MOSCOW	4/2R	4/2R	6/3C
NEW DELHI	27/15S	27/16S	28/17S
NEW YORK	11/6PC	12/7R	13/4PC
NICE	15/9R	16/7PC	15/8PC
ORLANDO	25/15PC	29/18PC	32/20PC
PARIS	10/2R	9/5PC	10/3PC
PHOENIX	17/9R	20/9S	22/10S
ROME	16/10R	15/4R	15/3PC
SAN FRANCISCO	17/11S	14/10S	15/11PC
SEOUL	7/-1S	10/1PC	6/-3R
SINGAPORE	31/25PC	30/25R	30/26T
SYDNEY	36/20PC	22/20R	24/21R
TOKYO	9/6R	15/7S	11/7R
WASHINGTON	17/8PC	17/10C	16/6PC

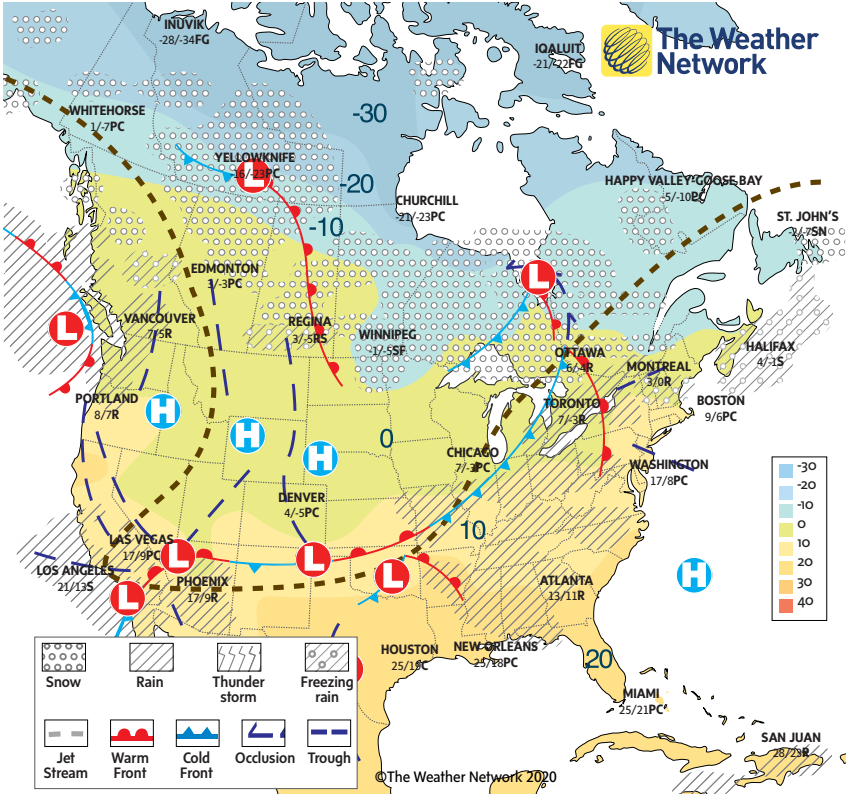
LEGEND

Daytime high, overnight low, and conditions

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

NATIONAL FORECAST

	TODAY	TUES.	WED.
BANFF	0/-3PC	2/-5SF	-3/-11SF
BARRIE	6/-6R	4/-1PC	4/-5PC
BRANDON	0/-3SF	-1/-6PC	3/-2SF
CALGARY	7/-4S	8/0S	3/-8SF
CHARLOTTETOWN	-2/-4PC	5/-2R	3/-2R
CHICOUTIMI	-2/-4SF	1/-4PC	2/-4SF
CHURCHILL	-21/-23PC	-18/-21PC	-15/-21PC
CORNER BROOK	-3/-9PC	1/-2SN	3/-2PC
CORNWALL	7/-1R	5/0PC	6/-2SF
EDMONTON	3/-3PC	3/-3SF	1/-11PC
HALIFAX	4/-1S	8/1R	5/0R
HAMILTON	6/-2R	5/0PC	7/-2PC
HUNTSVILLE	5/-6C	3/-2PC	2/-5PC
IQALUIT	-21/-22FG	-15/-16SF	-14/-23PC
JASPER	2/-3PC	2/-5RS	-3/-10PC
KELOWNA	8/3R	9/0PC	5/-4SF
KINGSTON	5/-2R	4/0PC	5/-2PC
LONDON	6/-2R	6/-1PC	7/-2PC
MONTREAL	3/0R	3/-1PC	4/-1SF
NIAGARA FALLS	7/-1R	6/0PC	7/-1PC
NORTH BAY	3/-6C	1/-3PC	2/-6PC
OTTAWA	6/-4R	4/-2PC	6/-3SF
PRINCE GEORGE	6/0RS	4/-3RS	2/-6PC
PETERBOROUGH	6/-5R	4/-1PC	5/-4PC
QUEBEC	-1/-2SF	4/-2PC	4/-2SN
REGINA	3/-5RS	2/-4PC	6/-2PC
SASKATOON	2/-9SF	1/-5SF	0/-5PC
SAULT S. M.	1/-5PC	2/-2RS	1/-3PC
SAINT JOHN	1/-1PC	6/2R	5/0R
SEPT-ÎLES	-3/-5PC	1/-5PC	-1/-5SF
ST. JOHN'S	-2/-7SN	1/-1SF	2/1RS
SUDBURY	3/-7PC	1/-3PC	2/-6PC
THUNDER BAY	-1/-9PC	3/-4SF	1/-3PC
THOMPSON	-10/-13SF	-7/-13C	-4/-10PC
TORONTO	7/-3R	3/0PC	6/-2PC
VAL D'OR	3/-6SF	-1/-5PC	1/-5SF
VANCOUVER	7/5R	8/3R	7/3PC
VICTORIA	11/7R	9/5R	7/5PC
WHISTLER	2/0SF	4/-3R	1/-3PC
WHITEHORSE	1/-7PC	-5/-16SF	-9/-21SN
WINNIPEG	-1/-5SF	-1/-10PC	1/-2SN
YELLOWKNIFE	-16/-23PC	-16/-24SF	-21/-29PC



BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020

Neither side vulnerable.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1[C]	1[H]	Dble	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	
Opening Lead – four of hearts.			

NORTH	WEST	EAST	SOUTH
♠ J 10	♠ K 6 2	♠ 9 7 5 4 3	♠ A Q 8
♥ Q 10 5	♥ A 9 7 4 3 2	♥ 8	♥ K J 6
♦ Q J 5	♦ 8 7	♦ 10 9 3	♦ A K 6 4 2
♣ 9 8 5 4 2	♣ Q 3	♣ A J 7 6	♣ K 10

This deal occurred in the semi-final match between China and the United States at the 2009 world team championship.

The bidding shown took place when a Chinese pair held the North-South cards. South's opening club bid was strong and artificial, and North's double of one heart showed some values, after which the bidding followed normal lines.

Nick Nickell, West, led a heart, taken in dummy by the queen. Declarer then led the jack of spades, and Nickell made what proved to be the key play, allowing the jack to hold. South then

repeated the finesse, whereupon Nickell won with the king and returned a third spade to South's ace, establishing two spade winners for East.

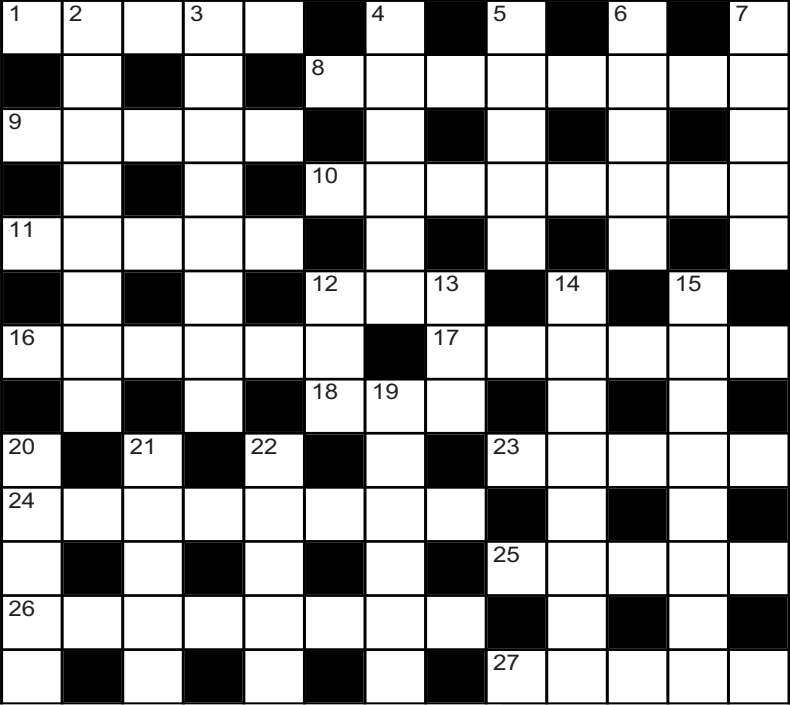
Declarer could still have gotten home safely had he elected to play East for the ace of clubs, but he instead tried for his ninth trick by leading a heart. Nickell rose with the ace and shifted to a club, and East's ace and two good spades put South down one.

While Nickell should be given full credit for his fine defence, the fact remains that declarer had only himself to blame for the outcome.

After the spade jack held at trick two, all South had to do was lead a heart to establish his ninth trick. West could take the ace or refuse it, as he pleased, but there was no way declarer could be prevented from scoring two spades, two hearts and five diamonds for his contract.

Given that the world team championship is scored by International Match Points, which puts a premium on bidding and making contracts, with over-tricks of little consequence, it may seem surprising that a player at this level could make such a mistake.

CHALLENGE CROSSWORD



CRYPTIC CLUES

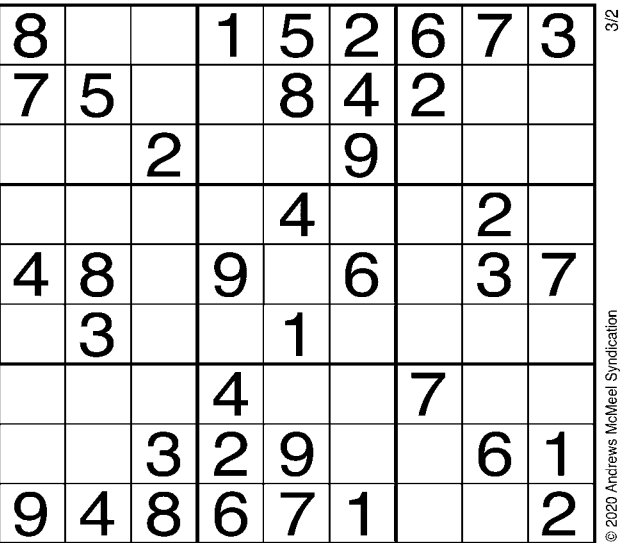
- ACROSS**
1 One left right out by choice rather than necessity? (5)
8 A weather-beaten bird (8)
9 Writer receives this French money (5)
10 Bill is leading the priest to be precise (8)
11 The last runners try to be first in this race (5)
12 Look for a cause of inflation (3)
16 Coaches will be seen in the street before long (6)
17 Threaten to get money (6)
18 Fruit seed is on the cards (3)
23 Many relax at the summit (5)
24 A partner placed inside is cut off (8)
25 Some projected amusements (5)
26 Encircled ally staging a revival? (8)
27 Factor eliminated by direct dealing (5)
- DOWN**
2 Light entertainment to repeat all over the place (8)
3 Trade using former coins (8)
4 Affected a stylish greeting (6)
5 Complete set of notes (5)
6 Learn anew about kidneys (5)
7 Colour for putting on (5)
12 It played its part in Cleopatra's poisoning (3)
13 Erected by salesman (3)
14 A sailor in the cast is naturally a good mimic (8)
15 Exert force on a chap to be journalist (8)
19 Eager to be camping? (6)
20 Memorial for a type of ferrier (5)
21 Upset to make light of (5)
22 Checks foundation garments (5)

QUICK CLUES

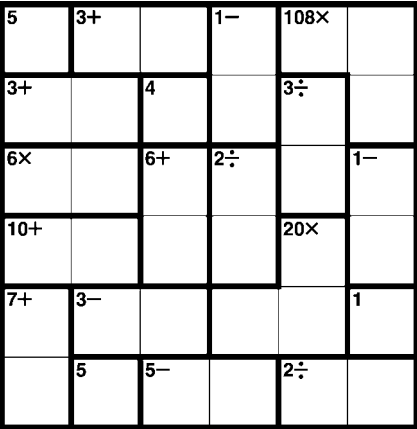
- ACROSS**
1 Grant (5)
8 Flow-regulating valve (8)
9 Direct and to the point (5)
10 Hermetically sealed (8)
11 Entrance hall (5)
12 Rainy (3)
16 Safe against attack (6)
17 Away from the point (6)
18 Software fault (3)
23 Complete trust (5)
24 Principal support (8)
25 Begin again (5)
26 Roomy (8)
27 Utter fool (5)
- DOWN**
2 Uncontested victory (8)
3 Small light car or boat (8)
4 Deal a blow (6)
5 Malice (5)
6 Waterlogged (5)
7 Fish of ray family (5)
12 Spider's trap (3)
13 An attached label (3)
14 Be in store (3,5)
15 Very much in fashion (3,3,2)
19 A planet (6)
20 Shafter (5)
21 A backless couch (5)
22 'Plain text' computer code (5)

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



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

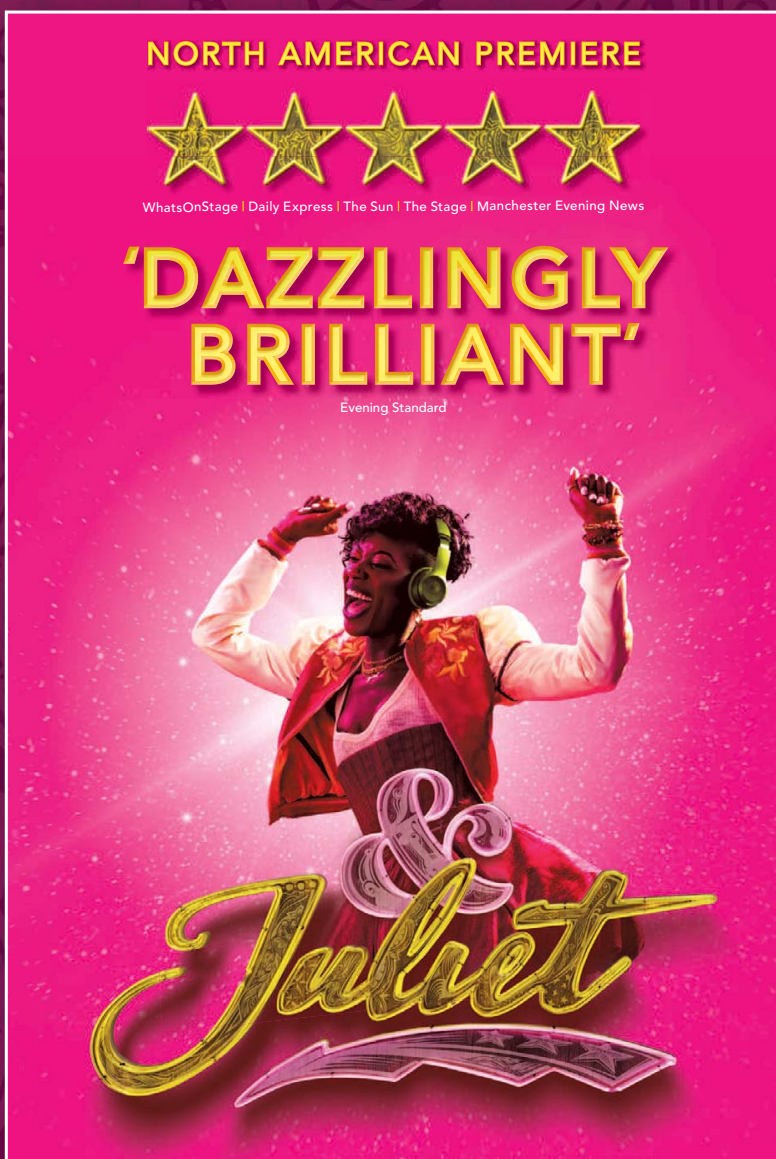


- INSTRUCTIONS**
- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 6 without repeating.
 - The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in the single-box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

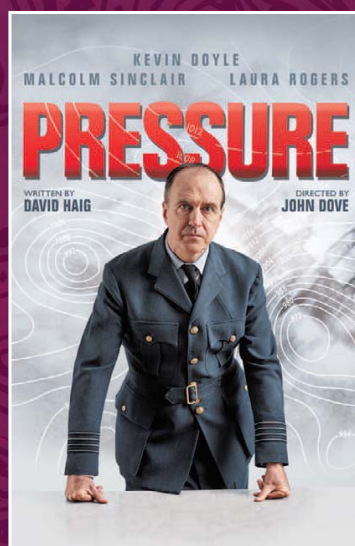
David Mirvish presents the 2020|21 Mirvish Theatre Season



6 MAIN SEASON SHOWS



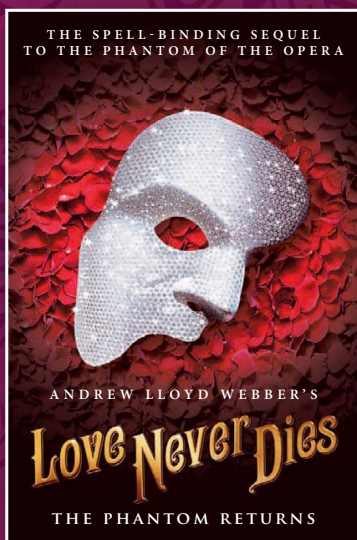
FEB/MAR 2021



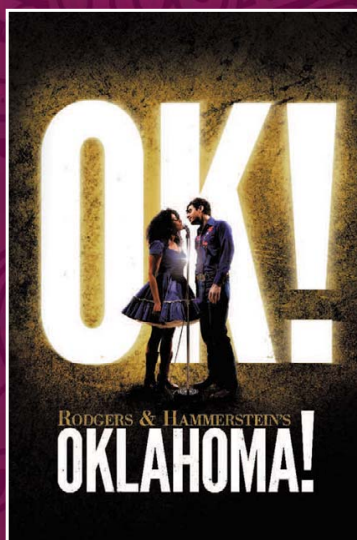
SEP-NOV 2020



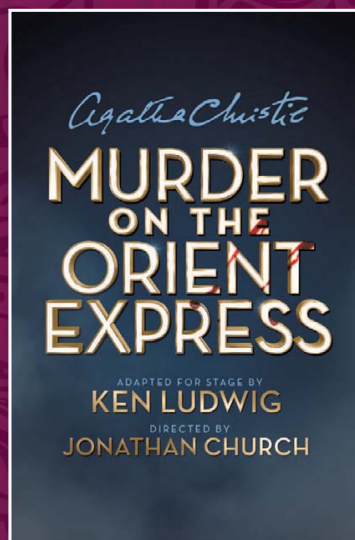
SEP/OCT 2020



DEC 2020/JAN 2021



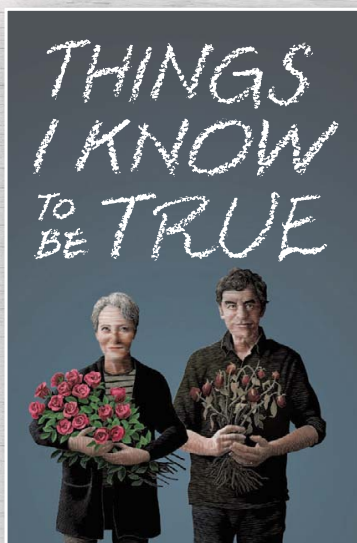
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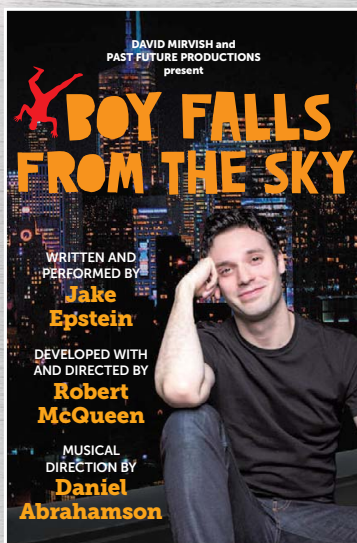
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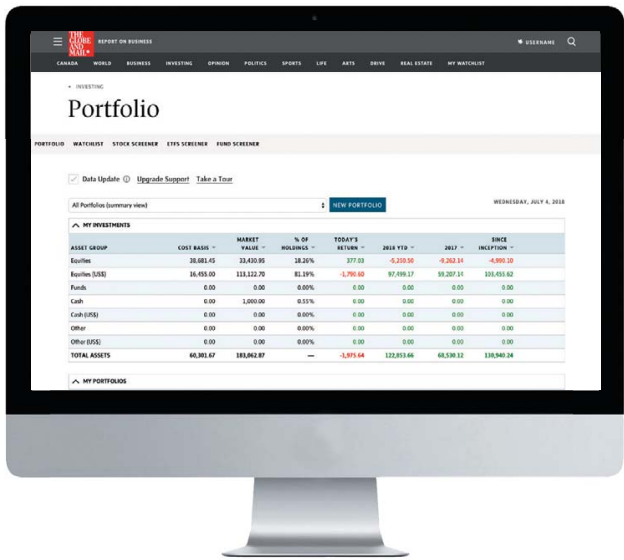
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Markets on edge, economic fears intensify over virus

COVID-19 sparks ‘period of extreme uncertainty’ as indicators flash warning signs

NIALL MCGEE

Investors are bracing for more market turmoil this week as uncertainty swirls over the spread of COVID-19 and the impact it is having on the global economy. About 85,000 cases of the coronavirus have been reported globally. The virus has killed at least 3,000 people, the vast majority in China. Several countries, including the Czech Republic and the Dominican Republic, reported their first cases over the weekend, while Australia, Thailand and the United States

reported their first deaths. Stock markets in Canada and the U.S. are coming off their steepest declines in more than a decade. Last week, the S&P 500 fell by 11.5 per cent, and the S&P/TSX shed 8.9 per cent of its value, the worst weekly showing for both indexes since the depths of the 2008 financial crisis. Based on intraday levels, the TSX had already fallen more than 10 per cent over the past six trading days. Both indexes are firmly in correction territory, with Canada hitting that level in a shorter time period than ever before. (A correction is a decline of at

least 10 per cent.) The pressure on stocks is being driven by fears that COVID-19 may end up having a much more damaging impact on the global economy and corporate profits than first feared. “The coronavirus is in many ways a black-swan event, one that we couldn’t see coming, and one that is exceptionally difficult to measure,” said Frances Donald, global chief economist with Manulife Investment Management in an interview. “It launches us into a period of extreme uncertainty.” ■ CORONAVIRUS, B2

Bondfield monitor moves to freeze assets of former CEO

GREG MCARTHUR
KAREN HOWLETT

The court-appointed monitor for Bondfield Construction Co. Ltd. is asking a judge to freeze the assets of the company’s former chief executive officer, including bank accounts and real estate properties scattered across Ontario, some of which are slated for housing developments. The proposed order would apply to 22 properties in Ontario owned by John Aquino, who ran Bondfield for nearly a decade. Mr. Aquino has sold or transferred his interest in some of the properties to others over the past 2½ years, including a luxury condo in Toronto’s Four Seasons building. The proposed order would freeze \$3.9-million in proceeds from the condo sale, and prohibit Mr. Aquino from selling other assets, including a unit in a Trump Tower condo in Miami.

The proposed freezing order is the latest move by the monitor, Ernst & Young Inc., to try to recover losses stemming from the collapse of Bondfield, which had been one of Ontario’s largest builders of public-sector projects until it sought creditor protection in 2019. A judge has yet to hear arguments about whether to grant the order and Mr. Aquino’s response to the proposed freeze has not been filed on the website for the monitor. A lawyer for Mr. Aquino did not respond to e-mailed requests for comment. Bondfield had been one of Ontario’s fastest-growing construction companies and was awarded more than \$800-million in contracts from Infrastructure Ontario, the procurement arm of the provincial government, in quick succession between 2014 and 2015. Some of those projects – the redevelopment of both St. Michael’s Hospital in downtown Toronto and Cambridge Memorial Hospital in Southwestern Ontario – are more than two years behind schedule. In 2018, Zurich Insurance Company Ltd., which had guaranteed completion of Bondfield’s projects through more than \$1-billion in surety bonds, became more actively involved in the company’s affairs after Bondfield was bombarded with lawsuits from unpaid subcontractors. ■ BONDFIELD, B6

ACQUISITIONS
Ottawa increases scrutiny of mergers involving China
■ B3

GLOBE INVESTOR
Rob Carrick offers four Statistics Canada insights into RRSP contributions ■ B8

GLOBE INVESTOR
Main Street leans toward Sanders, but Wall Street says Trump ■ B8

COMPANIES	
CHEVRON	B2
SAUDI ARAMCO	B6
SHOPIFY	B5
SUNCOR	B2
TOURMALINE	B2

SMALL BUSINESS

Shopify angel investors earn their wings

How the e-commerce company’s leaders are funding a new wave of ambitious startups ■ B5



Kabo Fresh Dog Food CEO Vijay Jeyapalan, seen with his dog Milos, is expanding his company across Canada with the help of angel investors, including a handful of Shopify employees. CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

When contractors are employees in the gig economy: Tax court ruling leaves caterer with massive bill

PATRICK BRETHOUR
TAX AND FISCAL POLICY REPORTER

Cary Silber thought his Toronto catering-staffing business didn’t have any employees. He saw his company, AE Hospitality Ltd., as a turnkey operation that connected independent contractors with caterers that needed waiters, bartenders and chefs. But then the Federal Tax Court ruled in May that the 218 workers he contended were independent contractors are in fact employees, saddling Mr. Silber’s company with a bill for \$496,000 –the

sum of the employment insurance and Canada Pension Plan contributions that AE Hospitality and its staff should have been making for years. AE Hospitality had written agreements with nearly all of the people working as chefs and waiters, explicitly spelling out that they were contractors, and that AE Hospitality had no liability for any possible tax obligations. But, to Mr. Silber’s surprise, those agreements did not decide the matter: The tax court found in favour of the Canada Revenue Agency, ruling that the actual way in which the wait staff and chefs worked meant they were employees.

Outside of Quebec, there’s no statutory definition drawing a distinction between employees and contractors. Instead, common-law precedents are used to decide on employment status on a case-by-case basis. “There’s no law that applies to independent contractors,” said Hilary Page, employment and contract lawyer for SpringLaw in Toronto. Those precedents are headed for a workout with Uber Technologies Inc. and other companies, as the rise of the gig economy further blurs the line between worker and contractor, between side hustle and job. ■ GIG ECONOMY, B6

SPORTS

■ B9-B14

HOCKEY
After last week’s wakeup call, Toronto Maple Leafs on a roll
■ B9

SOCCER
Manchester City wins English League Cup by beating Aston Villa 2-1 ■ B11

SPEEDSKATING
Ivanie Blondin captures silver in the world allround championships ■ B14

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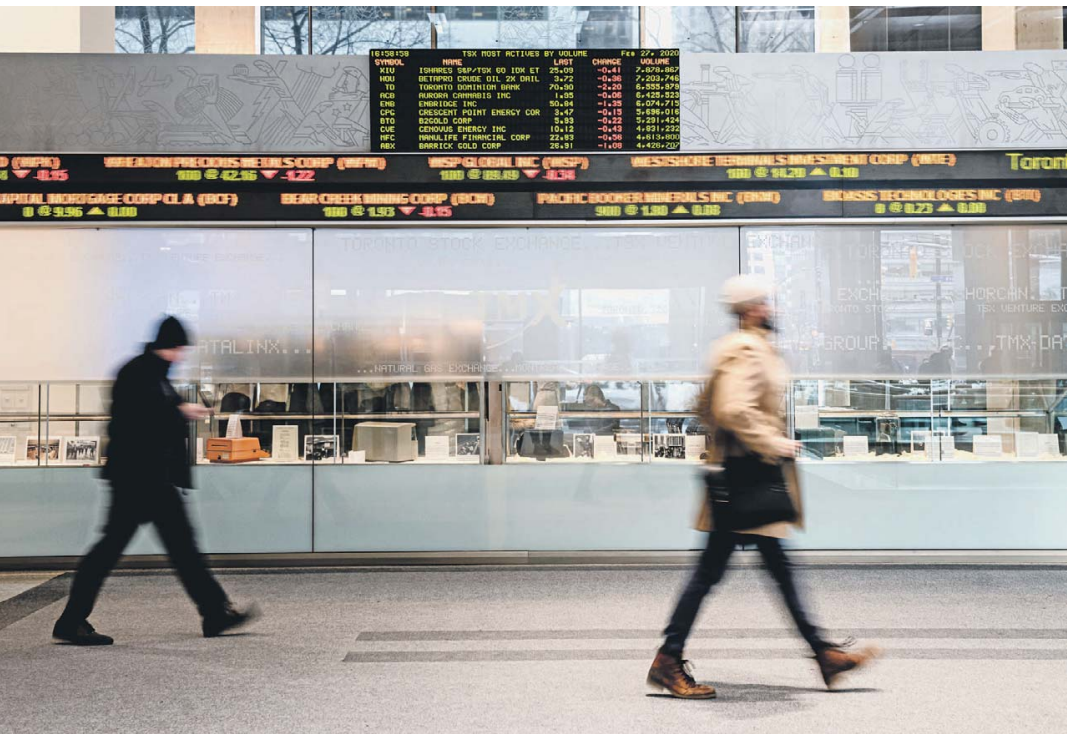
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The TSX ticker is seen in Toronto on Thursday. The energy sector dropped 0.7 per cent on the TSX on Friday as oil prices plummeted amid fears of slowing economic growth. CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Canadian oil producers have hedged – but is it enough?

Markets are at the mercy of the coronavirus, which is causing widespread travel warnings and bans, and decreasing demand for gasoline, jet fuel

EMMA GRANNEY
ENERGY REPORTER

When analysts land at their desks on Monday, they’re going to be keeping an eye on oil prices after Friday’s market meltdown.

Laura Lau, senior portfolio manager at Brompton Funds in Toronto, is “cautiously optimistic,” but she and other analysts are far from certain about where the price of oil will swing this week or how markets will react as the coronavirus continues to spread around the globe.

Oil markets in particular are at the mercy of the virus, which is causing widespread travel warnings and bans, and significantly decreasing demand for gasoline and jet fuel. By the end of Friday, oil prices – which had been making a slow recovery after a dramatic hit mid-February – had taken another tumble.

The benchmark for U.S. crude oil fell 16 per cent during the week, settling Friday at \$44.76 a barrel. Brent crude, the international standard, dropped 14 per cent for the

week to its lowest levels since July, 2017, closing Friday at \$50.52 a barrel. On the TSX, the energy sector dropped 0.7 per cent as oil prices plummeted amid fears of slowing economic growth.

Meanwhile, shares of **Exxon Mobil** tumbled to \$49.82 on Thursday, reaching a 15-year low, before rebounding more than 3 per cent on Friday. **Chevron Corp.** shares hit their lowest level in nearly four years on Friday. In Canada, both **Suncor** and **Canadian Natural Resources** fell Friday, to close at their lowest levels year to date.

“Without being a genius, I can tell you there will be more cases and more countries [with coronavirus cases] but the question is how much?” Ms. Lau said Friday.

Ms. Lau’s cautious optimism comes from a slight reversal in the markets Friday, and the OPEC crude production cuts she expects to see later this week.

Jeremy McCrea, director of energy research at Raymond James, said investors are concerned about the amount of oil being added to global inventories as demand for crude continues to slide.

Like Ms. Lau, he said OPEC discussions, set for Thursday in Vienna, will be a “big driver” of oil prices as markets emerge from what he called a “shell-shocked” end last week.

For both Mr. McCrea and Ms. Lau, the overarching theme in the oil markets is uncertainty around the coronavirus – how much it will spread and to which countries, and the number of fatalities and international quarantines.

“By far the biggest thing in the markets here is the unknown,” Mr. McCrea said Friday.

“You’re seeing uncertainty drive oil prices and investors saying, ‘I just don’t want to be part of this risk.’”

Ms. Lau said that’s compounded by the amount of automated selling in the markets. Unlike past health emergencies such as SARS and H1N1, she said, more indexed funds and less active management means there are fewer human eyes to catch wild swings.

“The market does tend to overreact, especially when you have a lot of machines involved in indiscriminate selling,” she said.

“A lot of them use price signals. They all have different gains, but a lot of them ... end up being quite similar so it tends to make it worse fairly quickly.”

Ultimately, no one knows what will happen to oil prices this week.

“It would be naive for anybody to think they could predict where oil prices will go,” Mr. McCrea said, adding that expert opinions are swinging wildly.

“At the end of the day, it all comes out as noise and confusion and uncertainty, and what investors do with uncertainty is say, ‘I’m just going to sell.’”

That, he said, is why stocks have moved so much.

“You just haven’t seen any buyers step in. Sellers are ruling the day here.”

With reports from Associated Press

In times of trouble, Tourmaline is buying in

EMMA GRANNEY
ENERGY REPORTER

With many oil and gas companies in Western Canada up for sale and facing “extremely low” valuations, Michael Rose likens the current state of Alberta’s oil and gas industry to the 2008 financial crisis.

His company, **Tourmaline Oil Corp.**, is taking advantage of that, buying up assets to make the most of a market in the doldrums. Its latest acquisitions, in the Montney region that straddles Alberta and northern British Columbia, brings two more companies into the Tourmaline fold – **Chinook Energy Inc.** and **Polar Star Canadian Oil and Gas Inc.**

Tourmaline’s strategy is to increase its slice of the natural-gas pie in the Montney, ready for a time when prices and demand start to increase.

For now, that means no significant drilling for the Chinook or Polar Star assets.

“We’ll wait for higher prices to do that,” Mr. Rose, Tourmaline’s chairman and chief executive, told The Globe and Mail.

Calgary-based Tourmaline has earmarked \$24.4-million to acquire Chinook. Assets include 54,000 acres of land, a gas plant, a compressor station and a regional pipeline. The \$9-million Polar Star buy includes 106,000 acres and a compressor station. Together, the two sites produce about 6,000 barrels of gas and condensate each day and have close to 116.3 million barrels of proven and probable reserves.

“All assets are undervalued right now, including us, so from that perspective yes” it was a good deal, Mr. Rose said.

The cash to buy Polar Star and Chinook comes through a new royalty and energy infrastructure company Tourmaline created last year called **Topaz Energy Corp.** The creation of Topaz was a way to shake the stagnation crushing the vast majority of natural gas producers, even those considered to be well run with manageable debt, such as Tourmaline.

Acquisitions have been something of an anomaly in Alberta’s oil and gas sector of late.

“We figured out how to internally crystallize a portion of our value that isn’t being recognized by the market,” Mr. Rose said.

“It doesn’t impact or change our E&P [exploration and production] business, but it created up to \$1-billion over the next couple of years that we could deploy in acquisitions without increasing our debt.”

Acquisitions have been something of an anomaly in Alberta’s oil and gas sector of late, with international and Canadian investors turning their backs as prices languish and global talk turns toward greener energy.

But for Tourmaline, it’s a key strategy that will continue as long as the price is right and assets jibe with the company’s key Western Canadian areas in the Montney, Alberta Deep Basin and Peace River.

“There’s no rush. Ultimately, we’ll develop everything. But at this point in time, the growth on the gas business will be through acquisition,” Mr. Rose said.

Analyst Robert Fitzmartyn, head of energy institutional research at Stifel FirstEnergy, wasn’t surprised by Tourmaline’s move to buy Chinook and Polar Star.

After all, he said, if your company is bound by external factors and can’t build infrastructure, then the market would encourage you to increase your business by acquisition because it doesn’t add to the basin supply output.

While Mr. Fitzmartyn doesn’t see many companies following Tourmaline’s lead to create a drop-down company such as Topaz, he thinks the market will trend toward more consolidation opportunities, particularly when smaller companies are seeing their borrowing capacity under pressure.

“I won’t say it will be broad and frequent ... [but] what we’re seeing in the tea leaves is intimating it’s a cost to capital advantage to do so,” he said.

Tourmaline expects its latest acquisitions to close in late April, subject to regulatory, court and shareholder approval.

Coronavirus: Bank of Canada to make rate decision Wednesday

■ FROM B1

The term “black swan” was brought into the public consciousness more than a decade ago by former trader Nassim Nicholas Taleb, who penned a bestselling book of the same name. He described a black swan as an event that is highly rare, impossible to predict, but one which can cause catastrophic damage.

Now, a growing number of economists are throwing their past predictions about the impact of COVID-19 out the window, and realizing that the world is heading into the great unknown.

“We have no ability to understand the length of this crisis,” Ms. Donald said.

COVID-19 differs from some other deep financial shocks in the past, she added, because it is affecting both the supply and demand side of the global economy, limiting our ability to make things, and ability to consume things.

On the weekend, there was more evidence that the virus is having an increasingly detrimental effect on China, the origin of the outbreak and home to by far the largest numbers of cases and deaths.

The Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI), which measures factory activity, plunged by a record amount in February to 35.7 from 50 in January, with many manufacturers forced to shutter factories to try to contain the spread of the virus. Many economists predict that China will contract in the first quarter and eventually tip into recession. (A recession is two quarters in a row of negative GDP.)

In Italy, the hardest hit European country where there have been roughly 1,600 cases of COVID-19 and 34 deaths, Economy Minister Roberto Gualtieri told an Italian newspaper that he plans to announce a stimulus package worth US\$3.5-billion this week that will go to both industry and the country’s health service. Companies that experience a 25-per-cent drop in revenue owing to the virus will be eligible to receive tax credits.

“I want to reassure Italians that we are well aware of the problems and dangers,” Mr. Gualtieri said in an interview with La



A worker wearing a protective suit measures the body temperature of a man inside the Shanghai Stock Exchange building last Friday. ALY SONG/REUTERS

Repubblica.

If more financial aid is needed, it would have to come from the European Union, he added.

U.S. Vice-President Mike Pence sought to reassure people in a television interview on Sunday, saying on NBC’s *Meet the Press* that “the fundamentals of the economy are strong,” and that the stock market “will come back.”

Amid the panic selling last week, there were few safe havens, with even gold bullion, traditionally a shelter in times of turmoil, falling sharply in price.

“The dislocation in equities, and a further slide in commodities, has ratcheted up odds of major interest-rate cuts by central banks and fuelled an already raging global bond-market rally,” wrote Douglas Porter, chief economist with BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., in a note previewing the coming week.

The yield on 10-year U.S. Treasuries fell to a record low of 1.17 per cent, a 30-basis-point drop in the past week. In Canada, the comparable 10-year yield dropped to 1.1 per

cent, a little above the 2016 record. Yields and prices move in inverse direction in the fixed-income market, meaning investors who bought bonds made swift returns last week.

The Bank of Canada will make a rate decision on Wednesday, with the bond market pricing in an 82-per-cent chance of a 25-basis-point cut.

Manulife’s Ms. Donald says she believes the decision is likely the most debated internally in recent memory, with the BOC on one hand open to a cut because of the stimulus it might bring to the economy, but on the other hand weary of adding to indebtedness, and exacerbating unaffordability in the housing market.

“I suspect the BOC will do their best to hold on Wednesday, but they are likely to send a message that if that hold is insufficient, they will step in as much as possible [at a later date],” she said.

With reports from Reuters and Associated Press

Norway wealth fund to blacklist climate culprits

Fund will crack down on four companies for greenhouse gas emissions, chairman of its ethics council says

GWLADYS FOUCHÉ OSLO

Norway’s US\$1-trillion wealth fund will exclude four companies for their vast emissions of greenhouse gases, or at least put them on probation to force them to change, the chairman of its ethics watchdog said.

The fund’s ethics body is, separately, opening a new front, said Johan H. Andresen: investigating whether technology companies’ tools are being used for “improper surveillance,” with their makers held to account regardless of their intent.

The world’s largest sovereign wealth, which has massive market influence because it owns 1.5 per cent of the world’s listed shares, operates under ethical guidelines set by parliament.

Mr. Andresen, chairman of the fund’s Council on Ethics, said it had recommended the fund divest shares in the four polluters, after probing the oil, steel and concrete industries. The four companies were “worst in class” compared with peers in the same sectors, but also compared with other sectors, he said.

The Norwegian central bank, which manages the fund, should make announcements about the firms imminently, the 58-year-old added. Companies to be excluded are not named until the fund has sold the shares, to avoid the stock falling in value beforehand.

“All of them were recommendations to exclude because we felt it was needed: They were cases that stood out,” Mr. Andresen said in an interview ahead of the publication of the council’s annual report on Sunday.

The central bank typically follows the council’s recommendations to censure companies but sometimes, rather than immediately excluding them, it puts



The Norwegian central bank in Oslo is seen in 2018. The bank manages Norway’s US\$1-trillion wealth fund and typically follows its Council on Ethics’ recommendations to censure companies. GWLADYS FOUCHÉ/REUTERS

them on a watch list to give them a set period of time to come up with a plan to significantly change their behaviour, or face exclusion.

The fund is forbidden by parliament from investing in companies that produce nuclear weapons, landmines, or tobacco, or violate human rights, among other criteria.

Emissions became a criterion for exclusion in 2016. In 2017, the Council on Ethics recommended a handful of companies be excluded but, since then, work had been suspended while the central bank asked for clarification from the finance ministry about the interpretation of the criterion. This has now happened, enabling the council to proceed.

To avoid blacklisting, companies should have a plan showing how they intend to adapt to climate change, with specifics crucial, Mr. Andresen said.

“We will look at speed, time, capital spend dedicated,” he added. “We want to see if they are walking the walk.”

A fifth company will now be assessed by the central bank for possible exclusion for using too much coal in its activities, Mr. Andresen said.

The council is also investigating a new area for possible human-rights violations – whether tech products are used for “improper surveillance.”

“We are not looking at intent but whether the products of companies are being used improperly,” he said. “Artificial intelligence can be used to find cancer but it can be used for other things. ... We are looking for documentation as to whether companies know what their products are used for.”

Mr. Andresen, who also owns private investment vehicle Ferd, said he expected the fund to announce possible exclusion decisions in this area this year as the council had already concluded investigations in “several cases.”

“We are looking at the sharper end, where the norm violations are the most visible and where it is easier to establish the facts,” he added. “George Orwell’s 1984 is, to some extent, here. These are scary developments.”

Mr. Andresen said he also ex-

pected a decision to be published this year about a company that causes severe environmental damage, as well as several companies in the textile industry for labour condition violations that breached human rights.

About 65 companies have been excluded by the fund, on various grounds, on recommendations from the Council on Ethics. Another 68 companies have been excluded directly by the central bank based on their dependence on coal.

The fund, created from the proceeds of Norway’s oil industry, gradually sells shares in any company it wishes to drop. The main aim is to remove the ethical risk.

REUTERS

Ottawa steps up reviews of merger deals on national security grounds

CHRISTINE DOBBY
CORPORATE LAW REPORTER

New numbers show the Canadian government has increased its focus on national security reviews in recent years, with the vast majority aimed at investments coming from China.

The federal government introduced the national security provisions of the Investment Canada Act in 2009, paving the way for security and intelligence agencies to review foreign acquisitions of Canadian companies or the establishment of new businesses by non-Canadian owners. The process is naturally shrouded in some secrecy, but in recent years, Ottawa has begun providing some public data on the number and type of reviews it has conducted.

The most recent report, covering the 2018 to 2019 fiscal year (ended March 31), reveals the government conducted seven full national security reviews, up from two in 2017-18, five in 2016-17 and zero the year before that. There were also zero reviews between 2009 and fiscal 2012 to 2013. (In some cases, the government asks investors questions or even issues a notice of a potential national security review but does not proceed to the full review process.) Ottawa has conducted a total of 22 full reviews since the provisions were introduced and 14 of those have been investments from China.

“Statistically, the numbers show an overwhelming emphasis on China,” said Ian Macdonald, a partner who practises competition law at Gowling WLG LLP. The government has only reported the investors’ country of origin for the past two years. Mr. Macdonald said he believes it held back that information for some time owing in large part to diplomacy as Canada seeks investment from China while balancing concerns about security related to investments in critical infrastructure or technology assets.

Michael Kilby, a partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP, says three high-profile cases illustrate the Canadian government’s seeming ambivalence with respect to Chinese investment. In 2017, the Liberal government reversed a decision by the previous Conservative administration to block Chinese technology company O-Net from acquiring a Canadian laser tech-

SIX DEALS THAT FACED SCRUTINY ON NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS

The federal government publishes annual information on investments that have been subject to a national security review, including the buyer’s country of origin, the industry sector of the target investment and the outcome of the review. It does not disclose the names of the businesses involved, however, some have been identified publicly by the parties themselves or through media reports.

Here are some notable deals to fall under Ottawa’s national security lens over the past decade:

- 2013 – VimpelCom Ltd., controlled by a Russian oligarch, withdrew its bid to gain full control over wireless startup

Wind Mobile after a months-long review process. At the time, Wind’s network infrastructure included equipment made by China’s Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd., which heightened concern over the deal.

- 2013 – Just a few months later, Ottawa blocked Egyptian investment fund Accelero Capital Holdings’ proposal to buy the MTS Allstream fibre-optic business from Manitoba Telecom Services Inc. Accelero owner, Egyptian billionaire Naguib Sawiris, who was one of Wind Mobile’s original backers, vowed he would never again invest in Canada.
- 2015 – Beijing-based Beida Jade Bird Group announced in 2014 it would spend \$30-

million to build a plant near Montreal, planning to manufacture fire alarm systems for the Chinese market. La Presse reported the following year that the government conducted a national security review and rejected the location of the factory because it was too close to the headquarters of the Canadian Space Agency.

- 2017 – The Liberal cabinet reversed a 2015 decision by the former Conservative government to prevent Hong Kong-based O-Net Communications Ltd. from acquiring Montreal-based ITF Technologies, a leader in fibre-laser technology.

The new government order contained certain conditions

that remained confidential.

- 2017 – Later in 2017, the government approved the sale of satellite technology company Norsat International Inc. to Chinese telecom Hytera Communications Inc. The Norsat case was notable because Ottawa scrutinized the transaction but did not conduct a formal national security review, suggesting to some that Canada would take a more welcoming approach to Chinese investment.
- 2018 – But the following year, Ottawa blocked the \$1.5-billion sale of Aecon Group Inc. to a Chinese state-owned enterprise, China Communications Construction Co. Ltd.

CHRISTINE DOBBY

nology maker, ITF Technologies. Later that same year, Ottawa approved the sale of satellite maker Norsat International Inc. to Chinese telecom Hytera Communications without conducting a formal national security review.

But the pendulum swung the other way with state-owned China Communications Construction Co. Ltd.’s \$1.5-billion bid to acquire construction and engineering company Aecon Group Inc. Market watchers expected the deal would be cleared, though perhaps with certain conditions imposed. But the government blocked the deal in May, 2018.

“Each successive major Chinese investment presents a new challenge to the Canadian government, given the intense public scrutiny and criticism that it inevitably attracts, and 2018 has confirmed the long-held view that not every Chinese investment in Canada will be approved,” Mr. Kilby said.

He says advising clients on the national security review process has changed significantly in recent years. From a procedural standpoint, the government now urges foreign investors to notify Ottawa of a proposed deal at least 45 days before closing the transaction (the length of time the government has to decide whether to refer an investment to the national security process). Most investments do not attract such

scrutiny, but lawyers will weigh this risk when advising clients on how to approach closing dates. (Out of 962 investment filings in 2018-19, seven were subject to national security reviews, compared with two out of 751 filings in 2017-2018, five out of 737 filings in 2016-2017 and zero out of 641 in 2015-2016.)

“Another implication is that when a Canadian business has multiple potential buyers, the business and its advisers would do well to make a comparative assessment of the different bidders and the risks that they present, given that certain bidders may present substantial risk,” Mr. Kilby said.

Cassandra Brown, a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, says that the industry of the proposed investment remains a crucial factor, pointing out that the majority of Chinese investments that have attracted national security reviews have related to critical infrastructure or the digital economy. There were four investments from China that were subject to a national security review in 2018-19, but 32 others were not. The government does not name the specific companies involved.

“So while the government showed an increased willingness to use the national security review mechanism in 2018-19, there was also a higher chance of an investment that was subject to a full

review being cleared with no conditions.”

Last year’s report revealed that three deals – including two from China – went through the review process and were cleared with no further action required. According to its public disclosures, those were the first cases in which Ottawa conducted a national security review and the deals emerged unscathed.

“I do think that’s notable,” Ms. Brown said. “It will be interesting to watch in future years if that develops into a trend or whether we see a return to the pattern before that, which was any time you saw a full national security review, the result was either the government ordering a divestiture, blocking the deal or imposing modifications or the investor withdrawing the investment.”

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OPINION & ANALYSIS

How Trudeau could still save his climate agenda

If the Liberals want to be less apologetic about existing industry, but bolder in asking Canadians to join the economic and social transition, they will soon have a chance

ADAM RADWANSKI



OPINION

If he still hopes to go down in history as the prime minister who put Canada on an ambitious path to fighting climate change, Justin Trudeau might have to shift focus from the country’s most contentious source of greenhouse gas emissions.

Yes, annual emissions from Alberta’s oil sands continue to rise toward the 100 megatonne cap to which the province’s government has verbally committed, but not yet put into law. And Canada will be hard-pressed to hit its 2030 commitments under the Paris Agreement – let alone Mr. Trudeau’s promise of carbon neutrality by 2050 – unless that trend is reversed.

But lately, it’s been easy to get the impression that that’s all Canada needs to worry about. Neither government nor the public seem to be as preoccupied with the roughly 600 megatonnes of annual emissions that aren’t caused by pulling oil and gas out of the ground – much of which could be tackled at less risk to national unity.

The overwhelming recent attention paid to where fossil-fuel extraction fits into Canada’s future is not by the Liberals’ design. Their procrastination over whether to approve the Frontier oil sands mine, before Teck Resources yanked its proposal, suggested they’d have happily done without it landing in their laps. And their role in the blockades crisis stemming from a First Nations dispute over a natural-gas pipeline in B.C. has been purely reactive.

But there is one important way in which the Liberals had already fallen short. They had insufficiently advanced an agenda that makes clear that Western Canada isn’t alone in this, and provides enough of a national push toward sustainability that it could not be derailed by controversies over individual projects with limited impact.

Mr. Trudeau has suggested, not far off from many voices in Alberta, that as long as there remains global reliance on fossil fuels, Canada should try to meet demand with the cleanest product it can produce. But he has rarely been assertive enough about it to win Albertans’ trust.

Nor has he been muscular enough in how he approaches the corollary: government doing all it can to hasten a consumption shift toward other energy sources.

Neither government nor the public seem to be as preoccupied with the roughly 600 megatonnes of annual emissions that aren’t caused by pulling oil and gas out of the ground – much of which could be tackled at less risk to national unity.

first budget and the sales job that follows could allow Mr. Trudeau’s government to draw more attention to policies it has already introduced, such as phasing out remaining coal power. But probably only if it signals that such measures are part of a comprehensive and scaled-up national plan.

That could include being more aggressive in addressing road transportation, from which emissions exceed those of oil and gas extraction. Ottawa has made investments to try to hasten a shift to zero-emissions vehicles, mostly through charging infrastructure and purchase rebates, but it could be more ambitious on those fronts. And it has a lot more sticks that it could wield in the form of price signals to consumers and industry regulation.

It could include increased efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of commercial and residential buildings, through retrofit funding and tougher building codes and other tools at Ottawa’s disposal.

It could include a more strategically focused, better-articulated clean technology strategy. The Liberals have directed decent sums toward helping purveyors of low-emissions products scale up, and they’ll continue to do so. They’ll also likely follow up on their fuzzy campaign promise to implement a net-zero-emissions corporate tax cut. But what they haven’t really done is zero in on particular areas where Canada might build competitive advantage and help transitions to low-carbon economies elsewhere through exports – some of which, such as carbon capture and hydrogen uses, happen to have particular opportunity in Alberta.

Inevitably, some policies aimed at these ends would still be held up by Conservative politicians as proof the Liberals are trying to kill the oil sands. That’s what’s happened with carbon pricing, despite executives at some of the top oil companies supporting it. It stands to happen again with Ottawa’s in-the-works Clean Fuel Standard – which would demand lower carbon intensity over the life cycle of fuels sold in Canada – even though it would place a burden (likely passed down to consumers) on fossil-fuel importers as well as domestic producers, and shouldn’t affect exports.

But it’s presumably not beyond the Prime Minister’s capabilities to overcome those arguments. That is, if he really puts his government’s resources behind making the case – as he has only tentatively so far – that Canada can best reconcile its economic interests and global responsibilities by worrying a little less about its part in fulfilling fossil-fuel demand, and a lot more about leading the way in reducing that demand.

It’s not going to happen in one budget cycle, no matter how hard the Liberals try. But if it’s a vision that a second-term Prime Minister facing an uncertain minority Parliament end-date wants as his legacy, he needs to seize every remaining opportunity to bring it into much sharper focus.



The inclusion of a cultural exemption was an important policy objective for the Canadian government, with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, seen in Brampton, Ont., on Jan. 30., insisting ‘defending that cultural exemption is something fundamental to Canadians.’ MARK BLINCH/REUTERS

The USMCA cultural poison pill: Why the broadcast panel report could lead to millions in tariff retaliation

MICHAEL GEIST

OPINION

Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law at the University of Ottawa’s faculty of law. He recently appeared before the federal government’s international trade and industry and science and technology committees to discuss the digital implications of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement on trade.

As Parliament continues its review of legislation designed to implement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, the issue that has sparked the greatest surprise arises from a provision frequently promoted as a “win” during the negotiations.

The inclusion of a cultural exemption was viewed as an important policy objective for the government, with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau insisting “defending that cultural exemption is something fundamental to Canadians.” The USMCA does, indeed, feature a broad cultural exemption that covers a wide range of sectors. The exemption means that commitments such as equal treatment for U.S., Mexican and Canadian companies may be limited within the cultural sector.

Yet the cultural exemption did not come without a cost. The government rarely mentions it, but the agreement also includes a culture “poison pill” designed to discourage use of the exemption. It grants the U.S. the right to levy retaliatory measures of “equivalent commercial effect” in response to Canadian policies that would otherwise violate USMCA if not for the exemption.

Since the provision does not limit retaliation to the cultural sector, the U.S. can be expected to target sensitive areas of the

Canadian economy such as the dairy or steel sectors. This was the U.S. strategy last year when responding to a French plan to levy a new digital tax, which led to threats to impose US\$2.4-billion in tariffs against French goods such as wine, cheese and handbags.

The poison pill has existed for many years in Canada-U.S. agreements, but two things have changed in the current environment. First, the introduction of a digital trade chapter significantly expands the scope of the deal, introducing new rules on privacy, e-commerce and digital services. Given the prospect of treating Canadian and U.S. cultural digital services differently, the likelihood of triggering retaliatory measures under USMCA is far greater.

The USMCA does, indeed, feature a broad cultural exemption that covers a wide range of sectors.

Second, the recent broadcasting and telecommunications legislative review panel report – called the Yale Report – contains many recommendations on regulating the internet and online news services, such as news aggregators, that would open the door to tariff retaliation. The report’s recommendations have yet to be adopted, but Canadian Heritage Minister Steven Guilbeault has indicated he hopes to respond with legislation within months.

Should the government adopt the broadcast panel recommendations on content, the U.S. would have a strong case for permitting retaliation with measures of equivalent commercial effect.

Panel proposals that may violate the new trade agreement in-

clude requirements to pay levies to fund Canadian content without full access to the same funding mechanisms enjoyed by Canadian firms, licensing requirements for internet services that may violate USMCA standards and discoverability requirements that limit the manner that information is conveyed on websites and services.

The likely U.S. reaction should come as little surprise given how Canada would react if Canadian digital services were required to fund broadband initiatives in Montana, support local newspapers in Alabama or fund the creation of television programs in Kentucky.

Yet that is precisely what the panel envisages, with mandated payments from services such as Skype or WhatsApp to support Canadian broadband in rural communities, registration requirements and levies on foreign news aggregation services such as Reddit to support Canadian newspapers, and mandated Canadian content spending on online video services such as Netflix, despite restrictions on their ability to benefit from Canadian cultural funding in the same manner as domestic competitors.

Canada has already backed away from plans to impose a digital tax on technology companies, recognizing that such a move would invite U.S. retaliation.

If the government moves ahead with panel recommendations that would subject internet services and sites around the world to millions in compliance fees, taxes and levies, there is every reason to believe that the cost would ultimately be borne by Canadian consumers and businesses, who would face the prospect of tariff retaliation because of a culture poison pill that Canada itself agreed to in the USMCA.





Kabo Fresh Dog Food co-founder Vinyo Jeyapalan – seen with Spencer in Vancouver last week – and his brother launched their company after consulting with pet nutritionists about the best foods for different breeds. Kabo is expanding across the country with the help of \$900,000 raised from angel investors, including some Shopify workers. RAFAL GERSZAK/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Shopify’s angel investors spread their wings

Employees at booming Ottawa startup are paying it forward by helping entrepreneurs expand their small businesses

BRENDA BOUW

Shopify Inc., the Ottawa startup that exploded into a \$70-billion company by providing an e-commerce platform for entrepreneurs, is now fuelling the success of other startups through its growing list of employees doubling as angel investors.

The **Shopify** angels are being likened to a group of former PayPal Holdings Inc. employees and founders who have gone on to start and back other technology companies such as Tesla Inc., LinkedIn, YouTube and Yelp. It’s also happening with alumni at other companies such as Uber Technologies Inc. and Airbnb Inc.

Some of the angels are founders of companies bought by Shopify over the years, and are using the proceeds to help fuel Canada’s next generation of entrepreneurs. The group also has a Slack channel at Shopify devoted to talking about angel investing and recently organized its first meet-up to discuss strategies on investing in Canada’s startup ecosystem.

“The fact that there are a number of us doing it at Shopify for other companies is amazing,” says Harley Finkelstein, Shopify’s chief operating officer.

While most of these angels are successful entrepreneurs in their own right, there is no guarantee their investments will turn out to be winners. But it’s a risk they’re willing to take.

Robleh Jama, the founder of mobile app Tiny Hearts, which was acquired by Shopify in 2016, is among the group of angels looking to pay it forward with his money and time.

“One of the reasons I’m investing, besides the fact that I’m very curious and I think it’s a great way to learn about different industries and to help entrepreneurs, is that I want to give back,” says Mr. Jama, an angel investor and senior product lead at Shopify. “I’m a big fan of company-building and supporter and backer of entrepreneurs.”

Mr. Jama’s angel focus is on Toronto-area founders from diverse backgrounds doing business in areas such as health and wellness. Some of his investments include pet-food maker Kabo Fresh Dog Food, female fertility company Lilia and health-technology company Jack. He’s also a backer of Muslim-focused toy company Zileej Inc., behind the Salam Sisters dolls that aim to entertain and empower girls.

“Part of it, I think, is our duty to help the ecosystem to create more Shopifys that are based in Canada,” Mr. Jama says. “What we are doing aligns with the Shopify mission of inspiring that next wave of business owners and independents.”

Mr. Finkelstein says there’s no pressure for Shopify staff to become angel investors. He says he believes it’s just part of the company’s DNA.

“It’s foundational at this company that we have people who care about entrepreneurs,” Mr. Finkelstein says. “We all do it to a different extent, but I think all of us do it for the same reason – we deeply believe entrepreneurship is important ... and now that we’re fortunate to have a bit of money we can do something [to support it].”

Mr. Finkelstein has personally invested in more than 20 companies to date, including Spartan Bioscience Inc., Integrate.ai, meeting-management startup Fellow Insights Inc., hydroponic grow box company Grobo and Wolf Down, a restaurant in Ottawa inspired by German street food. He was also an early investor in food delivery service SkipTheDishes, which sold to Britain-based Just Eat PLC in 2016.

“The common thread is that these are founders that I believe are really interesting and impactful and will do great things,” he says.

And while the sums may not be huge, often between \$25,000 or \$50,000, Mr. Finkelstein says the funds offer validation for

founders to press on with their business plan.

“Having someone who believes in you is important,” he says, citing the example of Shopify’s first angel investor, lawyer and former telecom executive John Phillips. “When someone who’s had some success says, ‘Hey, I not only believe in you ... but I’m willing to give you some money to validate [it],’ that’s an injection of confidence. Often that’s the difference between being successful or not.”

Arati Sharma, Shopify’s director of product marketing, and her husband, Satish Kanwar, the company’s vice-president of product, became angel investors after Shopify bought their user experience and design company Jet Cooper in 2013. (Mr. Kanwar founded Jet Cooper with Verne Ho, Shopify’s director of user experience.)

In 2019, Ms. Sharma took charge of the couple’s angel investing portfolio with a focus on Toronto-area companies that have at least one female founder and/or woman on their executive team. The couple have invested about \$10,000 to \$100,000 in companies such as Willful, Lilia, Juno College of Technology (previously known as HackerYou), Responsible Cannabis Use and Niu Body, to name a few. The couple also invest their time mentoring founders in their areas of expertise, such as marketing and technology. “When people are looking at angels, they are also looking beyond just the cheque they’re going to cut. They’re looking at the expertise they bring to the table,” Ms. Sharma says.

Daniel Debow, head of corporate development at Shopify and a long-time angel investor, mentors other entrepreneurs who want to become angels after they’ve sold their startups.

“This is a pay-it-forward activity,” says Mr. Debow, who joined Shopify in early 2019 after it acquired Helpful.com, a video messaging for business service he co-founded with David Pardy and Farhan Thawar. “You’ve been given a ladder up so now you have to reach down and pull other people up.”

It’s also “incredibly gratifying,” he says of angel investing. “It’s not really about the money, but the experience of being part of the growth that can be recycled back into the ecosystem and help others have the same success.”

TOUCHED BY ANGELS: THESE STARTUPS ARE GETTING A BOOST FROM SHOPIFY STAFFERS

KABO FRESH DOG FOOD

It was after losing their seven-year-old chow chow mix Kabo to stomach cancer in 2018 that identical twin brothers Vinyo and Vijay Jeyapalan decided to turn their concern for canine health into a company.

“When someone who’s had some success says, ‘Hey, I not only believe in you ... but I’m willing to give you some money to validate [it],’ that’s an injection of confidence.”

HARLEY FINKELSTEIN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF SHOPIFY

The brothers, entrepreneurs who also worked on Facebook’s e-commerce team in Toronto, spent about a year consulting with pet nutritionists about the right food to feed different dog breeds to help them live longer.

Last year, they launched Toronto-based Kabo Fresh Dog Food, a pet food subscription service that delivers “human-grade, gently cooked” dog food to owners’ doors, with proportions based on breed and dietary needs.

Kabo is rapidly expanding across Canada with the help of \$900,000 it has raised to date from angel investors, including a handful of Shopify employees. One key investor is Mr. Jama, Shopify’s senior product lead.

The brothers knew Mr. Jama from the Toronto startup scene and heard he was looking to fund new ventures. The three of them met over coffee near Shopify’s offices in downtown Toronto, where Mr. Jama laid out his strategy to invest in founders with diverse backgrounds and a great product or service.

The angel money has been hugely helpful, but Vinyo says the expertise the investors bring, particularly when it comes to online purchasing behaviour, has been invaluable. “We needed to rely on that type of advice early on for us to grow as fast as we did.”

Today, Kabo says it has served more than 110,000 meals and has about a dozen employees. It recently expanded into the Vancouver area and is available for dog owners in Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal and Halifax. The goal is to make Kabo available across Canada.

“We credit a lot of our expansion to the key angels we’ve been able to find that have expertise in consumer product technology,” Vinyo says. Meantime, he and Vijay have adopted a bulldog named Milos, whose favourite food is Kabo’s savoury beef recipe.

RESPONSIBLE CANNABIS USE

The legalization of recreational cannabis has created a huge learning curve for Canadians, and an opportunity for educational startup RCU Group Inc., known as Responsible Cannabis Use (RCU).

Toronto-based RCU, founded a month before legalization took effect in October, 2018, offers products for employers, employees and consumers around cannabis rules and safety.

“We realized everyday questions that came with cannabis legalization weren’t being answered,” says chief operating officer Karina Karashev, a former Sun Life Financial employee who co-founded RCU alongside Iliia Larionov, chief design officer, and Afshin Mousavian, chief executive officer.

RCU’s main products include Dontbe-

sorry.ca, an educational website that details the cannabis laws and impaired driving penalties across Canada; CannEd, which provides cannabis education for employers and employees; and CannEd Retail, an online, in-store education program for cannabis retailers.

Mr. Mousavian was working at Demac Media – an e-commerce design and development agency that consulted with a number of companies and provinces on their cannabis e-commerce technology – when the three RCU co-founders realized there was an opportunity in the “unsexy” side of cannabis. The idea brought them together to start RCU and develop educational products that address safety and responsibility for cannabis.

Since the launch, RCU has expanded its offerings thanks to \$500,000 in seed funding from a number of investors, including some former colleagues at Shopify where Mr. Larionov and Mr. Mousavian once worked.

Some of those investors include Ms. Sharma, Shopify’s director of product marketing, and her husband, Mr. Kanwar, vice-president of product.

“They have a really good understanding of what it takes to build out technology and build out startups and ... scale them to build products,” Mr. Mousavian says. “What we got from the angel investors was a runway that allowed us to not be forced to release products when they’re not ready for market.”

ZILEEJ INC.

Ansarullah Ridwan Mohammed was working at a development bank in Saudi Arabia when he came up with the idea to start a toy brand that reflected his Muslim faith.

“Kids are bombarded with a very narrow stream of content coming out of mostly the West. I saw a need for more creative, innovative products that represent different cultures around the world,” says Mr. Mohammed, who was born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago and educated in actuarial science at the University of Waterloo.

In 2012, as a side gig, Mr. Mohammed created the sPillars board game that teaches the basics of Islam. He then hired Australian designer Peter Gould, also a Muslim, to work on building out the game for different audiences and markets as well as online.

Then, in 2015, as the American Girl doll craze continued, the pair came up with the idea to develop a line of diverse dolls for Muslim girls. Mr. Gould has three children, including two daughters, and felt they needed more toys to reflect their faith. They came up with Salam Sisters, a line of five dolls that each come with removable headscarves and their own storyline.

“We wanted to create products for kids to see their culture represented in a positive, fun way,” Mr. Mohammed says.

In 2016, Mr. Mohammed left his job in Saudi Arabia and moved to Dubai to set up Zileej Inc., a company to house a growing line of Muslim-centric brands to reflect the fast-growing Islamic lifestyle market. Zileej, in Arabic, is the mosaic tilework designed from individual pieces that “create something beautiful,” Mr. Mohammed says.

About two years later, the company’s headquarters were moved to Toronto from Dubai. Mr. Mohammed said they chose Canada for its cultural diversity and Toronto for its robust startup scene. It was there he met with entrepreneur and Shopify product leader Mr. Jama, who had previously purchased some of the Salam Sisters dolls for his three girls.

Mr. Jama had been a mentor to Mr. Mohammed after he moved to Canada, and then became an angel investor, alongside family and friends of the founders who have put money into Zileej.

“Robleh connected with what we are doing,” Mr. Mohammed says, bringing both money and startup expertise to the table. “Who better to bring on than someone who sold his company [Tiny Hearts] to Shopify and is passionate about what we are doing?”



Shopify senior product lead Robleh Jama, seen in Montreal on Feb. 20, says that he helped fund companies such as Kabo Fresh Dog Food because he’s ‘a big fan of company-building’ and backing entrepreneurs. CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Bondfield: Monitor says legal move prompted by John Aquino’s transaction with wife

■ FROM B1

In October of that year, Bondfield terminated Mr. Aquino from his position as CEO. He was replaced by Steven Aquino, his younger brother, who took the company into bankruptcy protection. The company was founded by their father, Ralph Aquino, 45 years ago.

A forensic investigation launched by Ernst & Young alleged that John Aquino participated in a scheme to siphon \$80-million out of Bondfield through the use of false invoices. The probe alleged that, over an eight-year period, Bondfield paid millions to a number of companies that don't appear to have any real operations for work that was never performed. Some of that money allegedly flowed back to three former Bondfield executives, including \$5.2-million to John Aquino. The monitor has taken legal action against John Aquino and the other participants in the alleged scheme to recover funds.

In an affidavit responding to Ernst & Young's allegations, John Aquino has stated: "I am implicated in a matter that I believe is without merit." His lawyer, Michael Citak, has also said that the monitor's report "is at best incomplete and one-sided."

In December, Ernst & Young obtained an order to freeze the proceeds owed to John Aquino from the sale of a \$12.5-million commercial building that Mr. Aquino owned, in part, through a numbered company. That order is under appeal. The monitor's latest application, however, is far broader and seeks to restrain him, and others, from "dissipating [his] assets, wherever situated."

The legal move was prompted, the monitor says in court filings, by a transaction that John Aquino entered into with his wife, Cinzia Aquino.

On Dec. 18, 2019, Mr. Aquino



Bondfield was one of Ontario's fastest-growing construction companies and was awarded more than \$800-million in contracts from Infrastructure Ontario in quick succession between 2014 and 2015.
FRED LUM/
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

transferred his interest in their jointly owned Toronto home to his wife for \$2, the monitor alleges. The transaction took place less than a week after the monitor appeared in court to argue for the first freezing order.

Ernst & Young says it is "concerned that the sole purpose" of the \$2 transfer to Mr. Aquino's wife is to prevent the monitor from targeting the property as it seeks to recover assets on behalf of Bondfield's creditors.

The monitor has also identified six Toronto properties in which Mr. Aquino "appears to have had an interest" – including

a unit in the upscale Four Seasons Private Residences – that were sold between August, 2017, and December, 2018. The total proceeds from those sales were \$12.3-million.

Relying on an Excel spreadsheet located on the hard drive of Bondfield's former chief financial officer, the monitor says it has also identified more than a dozen other Ontario properties that John Aquino owns, in part, through various corporations. Several of these properties are large swaths of land that were slated for the development of condominium buildings or

houses. These include a proposed condominium building in Cambridge, Ont., about 100 kilometres west of Toronto, and a 257-townhouse complex in Kingston in Eastern Ontario.

Some of these properties are owned, in part, by other investors. The monitor is only seeking to freeze John Aquino's interest in those assets. There is no allegation that any of the other owners of those properties participated in the alleged false-invoice scheme.

The monitor's freezing application is scheduled to be argued in court in late March.

Gig economy: Contract workers don’t enjoy the protections and privileges of employees

■ FROM B1

Uber is already caught up in litigation, with the Supreme Court of Canada hearing a matter in November related to a proposed class-action suit seeking to classify the company's drivers as employees rather than contractors.

In that case, Uber has contended that its drivers are contractors subject to the arbitration process outlined in its standard contracts; the driver suing Uber is arguing that the drivers are employees, and protected by employment legislation.

And on Tuesday, the Ontario Labour Relations Board ruled that workers for Foodora Inc. are dependent contractors (a classification that gives some of the benefits and protections of an employee) and therefore able to unionize, rejecting the company's contention that its delivery workforce are independent contractors.

As Mr. Silber discovered, being on the wrong side of that line can be extremely costly for a company. He is appealing the tax court decision that backed the CRA and says paying the tab for those years of EI and CPP contributions would leave AE Hospitality insolvent. "The company can't pay that."

At first glance, AE Hospitality is not even a pixel in the digital world of the gig economy. Mr. Silber has been in the catering business for more than four decades, and although AE Hospitality uses software to match workers to catering events, the company's technological pedigree falls well short of that of Uber and its peers.

But the May tax court decision makes clear that AE Hospitality has quite a bit in common with the economic precepts of the gig economy: a lean centralized operation that depends on a fluid group of workers, who are asked to sign agreements that they are contractors, freeing the company from the obligations of an employer.

In her decision, Justice Johanne D'Auray agreed that, for all but two people, the wait staff had intended to be treated as contractors, not employees.

But she ultimately accepted the CRA's position that the workers – paid on an hourly basis – had no promise of profit or worry of loss. And, Justice D'Auray ruled that AE Hospitality did exercise control over its workers, since supervisors provided instruction on table settings and food presentation, among other matters.

For the time period at issue in the court case, AE Hospitality provided workers to two catering companies, both with ties to Mr. Silber. The first, Applause Cater-

ing Inc., is owned in part by Mr. Silber's son. Mr. Silber, through a holding company, holds a 25-per cent stake and is also an officer and director. The other catering company, operating as Encore Food with Elegance, is owned by Mr. Silber's wife; he is also an officer and director of that enterprise.

Bobby Solhi, partner in tax law at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP in Toronto, said courts have historically placed the most emphasis on the factors of intention and control. In his view, gig economy companies have a good case to make that their workers are independent contractors. In addition to signed agreements to that effect, companies such as Uber can point to a decentralized system that allows drivers to choose their own hours and decide which fares to pick up. But he warns that the more a company seeks to exert control, the greater the risk it runs of finding itself in Mr. Silber's situation. "At some point, you're veering toward an employee," he said.

The CRA declined a request for an interview, saying it cannot comment on matters being heard by a court. But in a statement, the agency noted that either employees or employers can ask it for a ruling on whether a worker is a contractor.

Control is typically articulated as human supervision. But Alex Rosenblat, senior researcher at the Data & Society Research Institute, a non-profit organization in New York, and author of *Uberland: How Algorithms Are Rewriting the Rules of Work*, contends that the software used in the gig economy is a new type of managerial control. Instead of a human supervisor (and, in the case of AE Hospitality, pictures of proper food presentation), companies have created algorithms that nudge workers in the desired direction.

Ms. Rosenblat says those bits of computer code are tools that management uses to exert control, just as surely if a human being were doing the nudging in person. "Algorithm is just another word for how you make decisions," she said.

The May tax court decision makes clear that AE Hospitality has quite a bit in common with the economic precepts of the gig economy: a lean centralized operation that depends on a fluid group of workers, who are asked to sign agreements that they are contractors, freeing the company from the obligations of an employer.

plunged amid worries about the global spread of COVID-19. Aramco shares broke past their previous low of 32.60 riyals, but were still above their IPO price of 32 riyals. At 32.50 riyals

they were down 2.55 per cent on the day. The state-owned oil giant raised US\$29.4-billion in the world's biggest IPO, by selling 1.7 per cent of the company. REUTERS

OPEC decision to further cut oil supply would not be dependent on Russia’s agreement, sources say

OPEC could agree on deeper oil supply cuts this week, with or without Russia's support, to halt the slide in crude prices triggered by the global spread of the coronavirus, two sources familiar with the talks said.

Moscow is resisting further output curbs, arguing that reduced production by the Saudi Arabia-led Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies, a group known as OPEC+, will not necessarily revive oil demand, the sources said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday said that current prices are acceptable for his country's budget and that Russia – a key member of OPEC+ – has sufficient resources to contend with any deterioration in the global economy.

"Saudi Arabia wants to hold prices from falling, but Russia is still not agreeing. So the only way might be for OPEC to cut alone, which will not send a good signal to the market," one of the sources said.

"There should be a cut, there is no other option," another source said, adding that another option might be for OPEC to delay a decision until low oil prices force Moscow to come on board.

Global oil and stock markets have been rattled by the spread of the coronavirus, which has infected more than 82,000 people globally, with more than 2,700 deaths in China and 57 fatalities in 46 other countries.

Brent crude fell to US\$49.67 a barrel on Friday, having lost more than US\$15 since January.

OPEC has been discussing cutting oil production by a further one million barrels a day (b/d), among other options, as it seeks to stabilize declining oil prices, OPEC and industry sources said on Friday.

That is more than an initially proposed cut of 600,000 b/d.

The existing OPEC+ pact entails output cuts of 1.7 million b/d under a deal that runs to the end of March.

Saudi Arabia has been holding its output to 400,000 b/d beneath its quota, bringing the total effective OPEC+ cuts to 2.1 million b/d.

OPEC and allies are scheduled to meet in Vienna over March 5-6 to seek agreement on production policy.

But cutting output without Russia could effectively mean an end to the co-operation between OPEC and Moscow, an outcome that Saudi Arabia and other key OPEC members would not want.

Moscow has a history of agreeing to OPEC+ actions only at the last minute after showing initial reluctance.

Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman last month described as "nonsense" a media report that Riyadh is considering a break from the OPEC+ alliance with Russia.

He also expressed confidence that OPEC+ would respond responsibly to the spread of the coronavirus contagion and that Saudi Arabia and Russia would remain engaged on oil policy.

The prince has been advocating a swift oil supply cut since the initial outbreak of the virus in January, aware that delays have previously led to costly price collapses, sources familiar with the kingdom's thinking have said.

Saudi Arabia needs oil prices of about US\$80 a barrel to balance its state budget while Russia can cope with prices as low as US\$42.

REUTERS

AMID CORONAVIRUS FEARS, SAUDI ARAMCO SHARES HIT LOWEST POINT SINCE DECEMBER IPO

DUBAI Shares of Saudi Aramco hit 32.50 riyals (about \$11.60) in intraday trading on Sunday, the lowest since it began trading in December after a record initial public offering, as oil prices

INVESTING IN MINING

Canada poised to achieve its full potential

THIS IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES OF FOUR FEATURES focusing on Canada's mineral exploration and mining sector published in partnership with the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC). The first appeared in *The Globe and Mail* on February 29, and the next two instalments will be published on March 3 and 4.

COMING UP IN TOMORROW'S FEATURE:
JOBS: Employers seeking talent as sector surges
BCG ENGINEERING: Data-driven solutions
ENDURANCE GOLD: A focus on balance
SILVERTIP: Shining a light in drilling

SUDBURY

SUDBURY STRONG: NICKEL MINING SUPPORTING GROWTH OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE MARKET

DURING WORLD WAR TWO, SUDBURY'S MINES SUPPLIED NICKEL TO MAKE ARMOUR PLATING FOR ALLIED FORCES. Eighty years later, the Ontario city is front and centre in a new war, the one against climate change, and once again nickel is playing a leading role.

As one of only a handful of jurisdictions in the world that produces Class 1 nickel, Sudbury's mines are crucial suppliers to manufacturers of batteries for electric vehicles (EVs). Some of its mining companies are already leading by example and switching over to EVs in their own operations, and the city's mining supply and service sector is ramping up the development of zero-emission underground equipment to meet growing global demand.



Greater Sudbury mayor, Brian Bigger and Meredith Armstrong, acting director of economic development see a great future for the nickel-rich city. **SUPPLIED**

"We believe Sudbury has not only an opportunity, but also a duty to be part of the transition to the battery/electric carbon economy," says the Mayor of Greater Sudbury, Brian Bigger. "There is a new chapter in the Sudbury story, and it's clear that the nickel and other key minerals, coupled with our expertise in innovation and safe and environmentally responsible mining practices, will help win the war on climate change."

He says Sudbury has become a true global mining hub. In 2019, the city's economic development team, in partnership with other local organizations, hosted 11 delegations from around the world, with more in the works for 2020.

"Some of the largest companies and countries in the world's mining

sector are looking to Greater Sudbury for its expertise in the industry and our experience in environmental remediation efforts," adds Mr. Bigger.

While mining is the cornerstone of Sudbury's economy, he says the city will continue to diversify in a variety of directions including health innovation, green and environmental technologies, and film/arts based on the strength of a strong bilingual community and a growing understanding, healthy engagement and respect for Indigenous communities.

The city also plans to establish a Centre for Mine Waste Biotechnology, and the Sudbury Re-Greening and Atmospheric Emissions Reduction (AER) projects will continue to be an inspiration for winning the war on climate change and serve

as a basis for increased tourism, he adds.

"Greater Sudbury is becoming a preferred location for newcomers to Canada as well as internal immigration from other parts of Canada," says Mr. Bigger. "Newcomers will be increasingly attracted to Sudbury's affordable lifestyle, connection to the outdoors, and family-oriented services and amenities."

Part of Sudbury's attraction is its ability to adapt to changing times, he says, pointing out that while the city has been challenged over the years by economic downturns and the move to mechanization that threatened jobs, it has always managed to bounce back.

"We have seen significant changes in the mining industry, particularly over the past 10 years as the pace of technological innovations accelerated. Many people were worried that technology would replace workers, but that's not happened," says Meredith Armstrong, acting director of economic development for the City of Greater Sudbury. "Today we are seeing new investment in our skilled workers, the retraining of employees and a new generation of high-paying careers in the technology sector."

The city believes its future is bright and it needs to start saying so.

"Perhaps it's time that we stop being such polite, humble Canadians," adds Mr. Bigger. "We should be proud of how far we've come, and it's time to do a bit of bragging about what we have accomplished, what we are doing and where we are going."

ROXGOLD INC.

WEST AFRICAN OPERATIONS CONTINUE TO DELIVER FOR ROXGOLD

Last year was a transformative year for Roxgold, says John Dorward, president and CEO of Roxgold Inc. (TSX:ROXG), a Canadian-based gold mining company with assets in West Africa.

The company acquired its second project, Séguéla in Côte d'Ivoire, while reporting record production of 142,204 ounces of gold at the Yaramoko Gold Mine, located in Burkina Faso. This production allows the company to generate significant amounts of free cashflow, ending the year with approximately US\$42-million in cash.

Séguéla has been an exceptional acquisition for the company and has the potential to significantly impact the production profile and project pipeline of the company, comments Mr. Dorward.

"When we acquired the project last year, we recognized that it was a very attractive portfolio of properties with highly prospective early and advanced stage opportunities. However, since getting our boots on – and our drills in – the ground, we have been able to quickly grow our resource base and gain an understanding of the upside potential of the project. We

will be releasing a PEA on Séguéla in early Q2 of this year, which will allow us to communicate to the market our vision of the project and the potential for it to add value to Roxgold as a company," adds Mr. Dorward.

Africa is a challenging environment for mining companies. In some jurisdictions, political instability and security threats have tended to scare off investors who believe the risks are too high. But it's a perception that should not be applied to the continent as a whole, says Mr. Dorward. Yaramoko is located in western Burkina Faso, which is considered more secure compared to the remote east and northern regions.

"Côte d'Ivoire is turning into a top-tier global mining district, and we believe Burkina Faso remains one of the world's most mining-friendly jurisdictions," says Mr. Dorward. "For example, Yaramoko was in production only five years after its first discovery hole. If you look at other mine-friendly jurisdictions like Canada or Nevada, you can expect a multi-decade timeline on your project when you account for the permitting process."

"But we continue to work with

the government, our communities and our employees to ensure we have a safe working environment. Safety starts with the people, and we believe that security starts with your relationship with the communities in which you operate," he adds.

Another potential value lever for Roxgold is the recently discovered

Boussoura project located at the southern end of the prolific Houndé Greenstone Belt. Two drill rigs are currently working at Boussoura with the ultimate goal of delivering Roxgold's third project.

For more information, visit roxgold.com



The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community. With over 7,500 members around the world, PDAC's work centres on supporting a competitive, responsible mineral sector. PDAC is known worldwide for its annual PDAC Convention – the premier international event for the industry – that has attracted over 25,000 people attendees from 135 countries in recent years.

Roxgold

YAKAMOKO GOLD MINE

Burkina Faso

Strong Cash Flow



SÉGUÉLA GOLD PROJECT

Côte d'Ivoire

PEA Q2/2020

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Who are the big users of RRSPs? Not surprisingly, men and older people

The idea of getting an early start on retirement savings is fading among younger workers, Statscan data show

ROB CARRICK
OPINION



The RRSP franchise is slipping. A declining percentage of taxpayers are contributing to registered retirement savings plans and those who do skew to an older, male-dominated demographic. Here are some insights on RRSPs that come out of the 2018 contribution data released recently by Statistics Canada. The deadline for contributing to RRSPs for the 2019 tax year is Monday, March 2.

RRSPS ARE LOSING MARKET SHARE

With a growing population of tax filers, you'd expect RRSP contributions to be on the increase. But the total number of people putting money into RRSPs fell 4.6 per cent from 2000 to 2018. That's a drop to six million from 6.3 million. Twenty-nine per cent of tax filers contributed to an RRSP in 2000, compared with 22 per cent in 2018. The 2009 launch of the tax-free savings account has something to do with this trend. In fact, the number of RRSP contributors had yet to recover to the 2008 level. Home ownership may also have a role in the declining use of RRSPs. High house prices may leave younger households with less to save for retirement, while also giv-

ing people the sense they are building wealth for the future. Note: Houses are unhelpful for providing retirement income unless you downsize to a cheaper home or city to free up cash.

MEN CONSISTENTLY PUT MORE MONEY IN RRSPs THAN WOMEN

On the surface, there seems to be improving RRSP equality between men and women. Fifty-three per cent of contributors were men in 2018 and 47 per cent were women, compared with 55 per cent men and 45 per cent women in 2000. But data on how much men and women contribute tell a different story. Economist Armine Yalnizyan said women's share of RRSP contributions rose to 33 per cent from 23 per cent from 1979 to 1989. Almost 30 years later, women still only accounted for 39 per cent of RRSP contributions and men account for 61 per cent. Why? "Men still make more money," Ms. Yalnizyan, the Atkinson Fellow on the Future of Workers, said by e-mail. "They are more likely to be employed, and employed full time."

OLDER, WELL-OFF PEOPLE DOMINATE IN CONTRIBUTIONS

The average age of RRSP contributors has crept up to 46 from 43 since 2000. A more telling statistic on the aging of RRSP contributors is that almost one in three RRSP contributors in 2018 were 55 and older, compared with just 16 per cent in 2000. Our population is aging, and older workers tend to have higher salaries. Statistics Canada analyst Derek Messacar says this helps explain why people with \$80,000 or more in total income accounted for 69 per cent of RRSP contributions in 2018, up from 31 per cent in 2000. "Older workers

are using RRSPs more," he said. Meanwhile, the idea of getting an early start on retirement savings with RRSPs seems to be fading a little. Forty-six per cent of contributions came from people aged 25 to 44 in 2000, compared with 30 per cent in 2018. It does make sense for younger people to use TFSA's instead of RRSPs. Ideally, you'd use both savings vehicles. But if you must choose, RRSPs make sense in your peak earning years and TFSA's in the earlier, lower-income years of your career. RRSPs work best when your current tax rate is higher than the rate you anticipate in retirement. That way, your tax deduction for making an RRSP contribution exceeds the tax hit on withdrawals from your retirement savings. TFSA contributions do not generate a tax deduction, but withdrawals of capital and investment gains in the plan are tax-free.

CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS ARE BARELY RISING

Adjusted for inflation, total RRSP contributions increased to \$43.5-billion from \$40.9-billion between 2000 and 2018, which amounts to only 6.4 per cent in total. The inflation-adjusted median contribution amount was up 16 per cent cumulatively between 2000 and 2018 - to \$4,377 from \$3,775. TFSA's have cut into RRSP contributions, without question. In 2017, the most recent year for which data are available, the average TFSA contribution was just more than \$7,500. But here's a question: RRSPs are a retirement-focused savings program, whereas TFSA's can be used for anything. Will TFSA contributions made for future use in retirement actually be available for that purpose in the years ahead?

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

- Canada's Markit Manufacturing PMI for February is released.
- U.S. Markit Manufacturing PMI for February is reported.
- U.S. ISM Index for February is released. The Street expects a reading of 50.5, down from 50.9 in January.
- U.S. reports construction spending for January. Estimate is an increase of 0.6 per cent from December.
- Earnings include:** Equinox Gold Corp.; Slate Office REIT

TUESDAY

- Canadian and U.S. auto sales are reported.
- Earnings include:** Aecon Group Inc.; Great Canadian Gaming Corp.; Semafo Inc.; True North Commercial REIT; Tourmaline Oil Corp.

WEDNESDAY

- U.S. ADP National Employment Report for February is released. Consensus is an increase of 170,000 from January.
- Canadian labour productivity for the fourth quarter is reported. Estimate is a rise of 0.1 per cent from the third quarter.
- Bank of Canada to make policy announcement.
- U.S. non-manufacturing ISM for February is reported.
- U.S. Beige Book is released.
- Earnings include:** Athabasca Oil Corp.; Ballard Power Systems Inc.; Baytex Energy Corp.; Granite REIT; Kelt Exploration Ltd.; Osisko Mining Inc.; Peyto Exploration & Development Corp.; TransAlta Renewables Inc.; TransAlta Corp.; Spin Master Corp.; Sleep Country Canada Holdings Inc.

THURSDAY

- U.S. productivity for fourth quarter is released. Consensus is an annualized rate rise of 1.3 per cent.
- U.S. factory orders for January are reported. Consensus is a decline of 0.2 per cent from December.
- Bank of Canada Governor Stephen Poloz presents the Economic Progress Report in Toronto.
- OPEC holds meeting.
- Earnings include:** AltaGas Canada Inc.; Alaris Royalty Corp.; Black Diamond Group Ltd.; Calfrac Well Services Ltd.; Clearwater Seafoods Inc.; Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.; Crescent Point Energy Corp.; Cominar REIT; Enghouse Systems Ltd.; MEG Energy Corp.; Northwest Healthcare Properties REIT; Parkland Fuel Corp.; Recipe Unlimited Corp.

FRIDAY

- Canadian employment for February is reported. Estimate is a rise of 0.1 per cent (20,000 jobs) from January.
- Canada's merchandise trade deficit for January is reported. Estimate is \$750-million, rising from \$370-million in December.
- U.S. employment for February is reported. Consensus is an increase of 175,000 from January.
- U.S. goods and services trade deficit for January is released. Consensus is US\$48.4-billion, falling from US\$48-billion in December.
- Canada's Ivey PMI for February is reported.
- U.S. wholesale trade for January is released.
- Earnings include:** Pizza Pizza Royalty Corp.

Wall Street is betting on Trump amid Sanders's rise, survey finds

CAROLINE VALETKEVITCH
APRIL JOYNER
LEWIS KRAUSKOPF NEW YORK

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders may be surging in the polls ahead of Super Tuesday, but some on Wall Street have made their own conclusions on what November will bring: Four more years of U.S. President Donald Trump. Ninety-five per cent of participants in a Deutsche Bank survey of investors, economists and other market participants released earlier this month said Mr. Trump, a Republican, was either "extremely likely" or "slightly likely" to win the general election.

Those results contrast with some wider recent polls cited on RealClearPolitics, which show any Democrat beating Mr. Trump in a presidential contest, although top contenders have a bigger lead. The latest Reuters/Ipsos poll, conducted Feb. 19-25, showed Mr. Sanders with a seven-percentage-point lead over Mr. Trump in a hypothetical general election matchup.

The sharp mismatch in expectations could stoke market volatility if Wall Streeters are wrong and a Democrat emerges victorious - especially if that winner is Mr. Sanders, whose promises to break up big banks, take on drug companies and essentially abolish private insurance in favour of a single government-run plan have unnerved some investors. Many on Wall Street were unprepared for Mr. Trump's win in 2016, which was followed by sharp swings in asset prices.

"As an investor, I look at this and say the market's nightmare scenario is that Bernie or [Massachusetts Senator] Elizabeth Warren wins the election," said Phil Orlando, chief equity market strategist at Federated Investors, in New York. "That's not our base case ... but it's a concern," he said.

Ms. Warren's policy proposals, like Mr. Sanders's, have also jangled nerves on Wall Street.

Investors will be looking ahead to Tuesday, when 14 states will cast ballots and Mr. Sanders could build an overwhelming ad-



Vermont Senator and Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders, seen in Springfield, Va., on Saturday, has made strong gains in polling ahead of this week's Super Tuesday primary vote, which will see 14 states cast ballots. SUSAN WALSH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

vantage if he captures the lion's share of the available delegates.

Those primaries come as the markets are gripped by concerns over the economic fallout from the spreading coronavirus outbreak, with the number of cases beyond China accelerating rapidly. U.S. stocks plunged for a sixth day on Thursday and the S&P 500 confirmed its fastest correction in history.

Mr. Orlando said Mr. Sanders's rise in the polls also contributed to the recent sell-off. Some investors also said continued volatility in markets or an economic downturn could wear away at Mr. Trump's support.

While the market gyrations are likely to drown out some of the potential impact from this week's results, some corners are already feeling the effects of Mr. Sanders's recent success.

After Mr. Sanders's commanding victory in the Nevada caucuses in February, shares of insurers such as UnitedHealth Group Inc. and Centene Corp. sold off on what some analysts said were concerns over the potential nomination of a Sanders nomination. "If Bernie runs the table and suddenly he becomes unstoppable, I think we're going to see the jitters again," said Teresa McRo-

berts, a portfolio manager focused on health care at Fred Alger Management in New York.

The effects on the broader market of a big Sanders win on Tuesday are less clear. Only 13 per cent of participants in Deutsche Bank's poll believed Mr. Sanders could beat Mr. Trump in the general election, compared with 22 per cent for former vice-president Joe Biden and 45 per cent for former New York mayor Mike Bloomberg.

Gary Bradshaw, portfolio manager at Hodges Capital Management in Dallas, has kept most of his attention on the coronavirus outbreak in recent days and isn't eager to make any election-related portfolio moves yet.

"I think most of my clients pretty much are like me, thinking Trump is going win," he said.

Bill Northey, senior investment director at U.S. Bank Wealth Management, said the election will become a greater concern for investors once the Democratic party selects its nominee.

"There are a number of places where the policy divides are incredibly wide," he said.

REUTERS

MEETING DATES

DATA SUPPLIED BY ISSUING COMPANIES THROUGH THE SERVICE OF CDS CLEARING AND DEPOSITORY SERVICES INC.

* = CHANGE IN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION % = CANCELLED MEETING; @ = ADJOURNED MEETING; A = ANNUAL; S = SPECIAL; G = GENERAL; X = EXTRA; E = EXTRAORDINARY

RECORD MEETING TYPE				RECORD MEETING TYPE				RECORD MEETING TYPE				RECORD MEETING TYPE				RECORD MEETING TYPE			
DATE	DATE			DATE	DATE			DATE	DATE			DATE	DATE			DATE	DATE		
Acreage Holdings Inc.	Mar 18	May 12	AG	Chinook Energy Inc.	Mar 10	Apr 20	AS	Great Atlantic Resources Corp.	Mar 16	Apr 20	AG	Painted Pony Energy Ltd.	Mar 18	May 07	AG	Step Energy Services Ltd.	Mar 20	May 07	AGS
Advantage Lithium Corp.	Feb 26	Apr 14	AGS	Colabor Group Inc.	Mar 18	Apr 30	AS	Great Bear Resources Ltd	Mar 16	Apr 23	S	Pason Systems Inc.	Mar 17	Apr 30	AG	Stria Lithium Inc.	Mar 18	Apr 22	AS
Alaris Royalty Corp.	Mar 20	May 06	AGS	Composite Alliance Group Inc.	Mar 20	Apr 24	AS	GMP Capital Inc.	Mar 16	Apr 21	S	Pembina Pipeline Corporation	*Mar 19	May 08	A	Sun Residential REIT	Mar 26	Apr 30	AGS
Algoma Central Corporation	Mar 18	May 06	A	Crombie REIT	Mar 19	May 07	AS	Home Capital Group Inc	Mar 23	May 13	AG	Petrus Resources Ltd.	Mar 20	May 05	AG	Superior Mining Intl. Corp.	Mar 17	Apr 21	AG
Alliance Mining Corp.	Mar 27	May 01	AG	Cruz Cobalt Corp.	Mar 27	May 13	AG	Hope Well Capital Corp.	Mar 16	Apr 30	S	Peyto Explor & Devel. Corp.	Mar 18	May 07	AS	SNC-Lavalin Group Inc.	Mar 16	May 07	AG
Altus Group Limited	Mar 20	May 06	AS	CCL Industries Inc.	Mar 27	May 14	AS	HIT Technologies Inc.	Mar 09	Apr 15	AGS	Phivida Holdings Inc.	Feb 21	Mar 26	AGS	Tervita Corporation	Mar 20	May 06	AS
American Uranium Mining Corp	Mar 03	Apr 07	AGS	Denison Mines Corp.	Mar 18	May 07	AG	Inovalis REIT	Mar 24	May 13	A	PlanetClean Recycle Industries	Mar 23	May 05	S	Timbercreek Financial Corp.	Mar 16	May 04	AS
Andlauer Healthcare Group Inc.	Mar 16	May 13	AG	Element Fleet Management Corp.	Mar 30	May 12	A	International Petroleum Corp	Mar 20	May 05	AG	Points International Ltd	Mar 30	May 13	AG	Torc Oil & Gas Ltd	Mar 20	May 06	AS
Astron Connect Inc.	Mar 16	Apr 28	AGS	Endeavour Silver Corp	Mar 20	May 12	AG	Jamieson Wellness Inc.	Mar 30	May 26	AGS	Power Corporation of Canada	Mar 18	May 15	AG	Toromont Industries Ltd.	Mar 16	May 01	A
AG Growth International Inc.	Mar 20	May 07	AGS	Enerflex Ltd.	Mar 18	May 08	AS	Lodge Resources Inc.	Mar 18	Apr 22	AG	Pretium Resources Inc.	Mar 20	Apr 30	AG	Tree Island Steel Ltd.	Mar 20	May 07	AG
ARC Resources Ltd.	Mar 16	May 07	AG	Enerplus Corporation	Mar 20	May 07	A	Logistec Corporation	Mar 16	May 06	AS	Pulse Seismic Inc	Mar 16	Apr 23	A	Tri Origin Exploration Ltd.	Feb 28	Apr 16	S
Baytex Energy Corp	Mar 19	May 07	AG	Equinox Gold Corp.	Mar 19	May 13	AS	Lot 49 Capital Corp.	Mar 11	Apr 17	A	PFB Corporation	Mar 23	May 07	AG	Turquoise Hill Resources Ltd.	Mar 23	May 12	AS
Blue Star Gold Corp.	Mar 23	Apr 29	AGS	Equitable Group Inc.	Mar 24	May 15	AG	Lundin Gold Inc.	Apr 24	Jun 03	AG	RavenQuest BioMed Inc.	Mar 06	Apr 20	AGS	TMX Group Limited	Mar 16	May 12	AGS
Boardwalk REIT	Mar 24	May 14	AS	Everton Resources Inc.	*Feb 07	Apr 06	AS	Lundin Mining Corporation	Mar 20	May 08	A	Riwi Corp.	Mar 25	Apr 29	AGS	Valeo Pharma Inc.	Mar 19	Apr 29	AG
Braille Energy Systems Inc.	Mar 18	Apr 22	AS	Excellon Resources Inc.	Mar 13	Apr 17	S	Mag One Products Inc	Mar 11	Apr 20	AGS	Russel Metals Inc.	Mar 20	May 05	A	Ventura Resources Inc.	*Feb 19	Mar 20	AS
BSR REIT	Mar 16	May 13	A	Finlay Minerals Ltd	May 22	Jun 26	AG	Magna International Inc.	Mar 20	May 07	AG	Sernova Corp.	Mar 16	Apr 30	A	VOTI Detection Inc.	Mar 19	Apr 28	AG
Calfrac Well Services Ltd.	Mar 17	May 05	AS	First Majestic Silver Corp	Apr 01	May 28	AG	Naikun Wind Energy Group Inc	Mar 19	Apr 23	AGS	Sirona Biochem Corp.	Mar 20	Apr 24	AG	Walcott Resources Ltd.	Mar 24	Apr 24	AG
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd	Mar 18	May 07	AG	First National Financial Corp	Mar 16	May 05	AG	Nevada Sunrise Gold Corp.	Mar 17	Apr 23	AGS	Slate Office REIT	Mar 23	May 14	A	Waste Connections, Inc.	Mar 19	May 15	AGS
Canaf Investments Inc.	Mar 18	Apr 22	AG	Focus Graphite Inc	Mar 18	Apr 22	AS	Northcliff Resources Ltd.	Mar 17	Apr 21	AGS	Slate Retail REIT	Mar 20	May 13	A	Western Energy Services Corp.	Mar 16	Apr 28	AGS
Canva-V-Cell Sciences Inc.	*Feb 11	Mar 24	AGS	Fortis Inc.	Mar 20	May 07	AG	Northern Superior Resources In	Mar 31	May 08	AG	Sleep Country Canada Holdings	Mar 25	May 05	AGS	Wipak Ltd.	Mar 18	Apr 22	AG
Cascades Inc.	Mar 16	May 07	A	Freehold Royalties Ltd.	Mar 16	May 05	AG	Novanta Inc.	Mar 30	May 14	AG	Spin Master Corp.	Mar 16	May 07	AG	Winston Resources Inc.	Mar 16	Apr 24	AGS
Cayenne Capital Corp.	Mar 11	Apr 17	A	Gibson Energy Inc.	Mar 23	May 05	AG	Onex Corporation	Mar 20	May 14	A	Spott Inc.	Mar 18	May 08	AGS				
Chemtrade Logistics Income Fnd	Mar 17	May 14	AG	Goldcliff Resource Corporation	Mar 20	Apr 28	AG	Osisko Gold Royalties Ltd	Mar 18	May 05	A	Star Navigation Systems	*Mar 04	Apr 08	AS				

SPORTS

Emergency goalies, offside reviews among topics hockey GMs will discuss this week ■ B10

Team Wild Card lead Colin Hodgson aims to inject some personality into the Brier ■ B13

[PHOTO OF THE DAY]



You shall not pass

Nuggets forward Will Barton seeks an opening as Raptors guard Kyle Lowry attempts to deny him during their matchup in Denver on Sunday. Forward Nikola Jokic was the star of the night with 23 points, 18 rebounds and 11 assists, helping to lead Denver to a 133-118 win against Toronto, which had to make do without Serge Ibaka and Fred VanVleet for a second successive game ■ B11

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leafs' third straight win shows Ayres episode was 'a wake-up call,' Keefe says

MARTY KLINKENBERG TORONTO

A week ago, after a wretched loss to an emergency backup goaltender, the Maple Leafs teetered on disaster. Riddle that they are, they have done something unexpected since then: win three in a row against tough opponents and secure their grip on a playoff position.

After Saturday night's 4-2 victory over the Vancouver Canucks, Tyson Barrie said the embarrassing defeat by David Ayres and the Carolina Hurricanes on Feb. 22 may have been the tipping point in the season.

"We are very proud people and didn't get to where we are without being that way," the Toronto

defenceman said in front of his dressing stall at Scotiabank Arena. "When something like that happens, you want to crawl into a hole."

"The good thing is that there is always another game and another opportunity to turn things around. We came out and responded in a good way. After that, we came with two nice wins on the road and again tonight."

The Maple Leafs shut down one of the league's most potent offensive teams. They held the Canucks' most dangerous players – Elias Pettersson, J.T. Miller, Tyler Toffoli and Bo Horvat – to one point among them. After allowing two goals on the first three shots he saw, Frederik Andersen stopped the next 24 in his 28th

victory of 2019-20.

Martin Marincin scored the game-winner, his annual goal of the season, and Toronto got others from Frederik Gauthier, Auston Matthews and Zach Hyman. The latter was an empty-netter in a sequence during which Hyman blocked a shot, dived in front of a Vancouver player to prevent another and then broke away after a fierce battle for the puck. "I would hate to play against Hyman," his teammate, defenceman Travis Dermott, said. "He fore-checks hard and has a big impact for the time he is in there. He works until he is dead."

The goal was the 45th for Matthews, who is two behind David Pastrnak of Boston for most in the league.

Marincin has scored only five times in six NHL seasons, but put Toronto ahead 3-2 only 18 seconds into the third period on a lovely wrist shot after a fancy toe drag and a break toward the net. It was his first goal since March 15 of last year. "You don't see it often from [him], but when he brings it out, it's usually a treat," said Matthews, who has 31 goals in 33 home games.

Marincin logged 20 minutes 48 seconds of playing time – a season high for him – with the team filling defensive gaps caused by injuries to Morgan Rielly, Jake Muzzin and Cody Ceci. Marincin also blocked six shots and delivered three hits.

He received the game basketball the Maple Leafs hand out to

the night's top player, a gesture that began this season as a tribute to the Raptors.

"When he is called upon, he gives everything he has," head coach Sheldon Keefe said. Marincin has been shuttled back and forth between the AHL Marlies and the NHL club multiple times this season. "When you are bounced around, up and down and in and out, that takes a lot of heart."

The Maple Leafs headed off on a California road trip on Sunday in third place in the NHL's Atlantic Division. The Florida Panthers are five points back in fourth. The first three teams in the division automatically advance to the postseason.

■ LEAFS, B10

Talbot stands tall as Flames top Panthers

Goalie notches 37 saves against Florida in his second shutout of the season

SUNRISE, FLA.

Cam Talbot made 37 saves and captain Mark Giordano had three assists in his third game back from an injury absence, leading the Calgary Flames to a 3-0 win over the Florida Panthers on Sunday afternoon.

The loss was the seventh in a row at home for Florida, eclipsing a franchise record set in 1998.

Johnny Gaudreau collected a goal and an assist and Milan Lucic and defenceman T.J. Brodie also tallied for Calgary, which concluded a five-game road trip with a 3-1-1 record.

It was Talbot's second shutout of the season and his first since his 44-save performance in a 6-0 romp over the Anaheim Ducks on Feb. 13.

Giordano, the reigning Norris Trophy recipient as the NHL's best defenceman, earned his first points since Feb. 4. He then missed the next 10 straight games owing to a hamstring injury before returning on Thursday.

Florida's Sam Montembeault made 24 saves in the loss. Panthers forward Mike Hoffman, who leads the team with 27 goals, saw his five-game goal streak come to a halt.

Calgary opened the scoring on a power-play goal at 6 minutes 21 seconds into the first period.

Already down a man when Brett Connolly was whistled for



tripping Elias Lindholm, the Panthers got more bad news when Lucas Wallmark lost his stick. That left Gaudreau virtually unchecked as he skated in and blasted a shot from the left circle that sailed past Montembeault.

With 12:17 expired in the first period, Gaudreau was awarded a penalty shot after he was hooked from behind by Panthers defen-

The Calgary Flames' Milan Lucic scores a goal against Florida Panthers goaltender Sam Montembeault during Sunday's game in Sunrise, Fla. Calgary won 3-0.

WILFREDO LEE/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ceman MacKenzie Weegar. However, Gaudreau's penalty shot was stuffed by Montembeault.

The Flames made it 2-0 on Lucic's goal with 3:10 elapsed in the second. After a Montembeault save, the puck ended up behind Florida's net. Derek Ryan beat three Panthers to the puck and then flipped a pass to Lucic near the blue paint for the goal.

Calgary extended its lead to 3-0 just 69 seconds into the third on Brodie's long shot from the high slot. Flames centre Elias Lindholm recorded his 200th career assist on the goal by Gaudreau.

The Flames' next game is at home against the Columbus Blue Jackets on Wednesday night.

REUTERS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL GMs to debate emergency goalies, offside and icing protocol

STEPHEN WHYNO

When a 42-year-old Zamboni driver entered as an emergency goaltender and won an NHL game, it became one of the best stories in sports.

But David Ayres, going from practising with the Toronto Maple Leafs to playing against them in the thick of a playoff race, also generated debate about what should happen in those rare instances. So protocol will be a significant topic of conversation when general managers open their annual March meeting Monday in Boca Raton, Fla.

"This was a perfect storm," Dallas Stars GM Jim Nill said. "You never think it's going to get to the point where you get two guys hurt, but it did happen."

Ayres is not employed by the Maple Leafs and works as operations manager at the former Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto. He has for years been one of the organization's on-call practice goalies and even backed up for their top minor-league affiliate during a game.

Despite going in for Carolina in a blue-and-white mask and equipment, Ayres stopped eight of the 10 shots he faced to help the Hurricanes beat the Maple Leafs. Because of that result, Pittsburgh Penguins GM Jim Rutherford didn't think much

about the oddity of the situation. "I guess if the result of the game had've gone the other way, I might've put more thought into it," Rutherford said.

"I don't have an issue with what just took place. But, like always, I'm open to listen to everybody's thoughts and what everybody's ideas are."

The current rule of each arena making an emergency goalie available for a game stemmed from 2015 incident in Florida that almost caused an assistant coach to put on the pads and play. Because an emergency goalie has only been required to play twice – Ayres and Scott Foster for Chicago in 2018 – executives and officials might find the current protocol better than the old-school notion of making a skater go in net.

"We said it's unfair to the guy on the ice to have to go in there," St. Louis Blues GM Doug Armstrong said. "It didn't make any sense. So, now we said let's see if there's someone locally that can go in the net. It's difficult to find 31 A-plus goalies that go to 41 home games a year."

Armstrong said he wouldn't be in favour of the expense of carrying a third goalie all season, which would also be impractical. One possibility calls for each team to have a full-time employee at home and on the road ready to serve as goalie if needed.

"What, do you go find a guy that's not too bad of a goalie that can practise every day, and work in your marketing department or wherever he's working?" Nill said. "He's got to travel with the team all the time. We look at those scenarios."

Deputy commissioner Bill Daly said the NHL has to work with the Players' Association on collective bargaining concerns, such as determining who counts as a player.

“
We want what's best for the game and we want to make sure people aren't putting themselves in danger by playing goal in a National Hockey League game.

BILL DALY
NHL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Those complications make it no easy fix with perhaps no perfect solution.

"Obviously, we want what's best for the game and we want to make sure people aren't putting themselves in danger by playing goal in a National Hockey League game," Daly said. "That's obviously something we have to continue to work through."

Here are some other topics

that could come up when GMs meet Monday-Wednesday.

■ Some offside reviews are disputable because a player's skate might be in the air, making it unclear even on replay. Coach's challenges are down after a rule change making an unsuccessful challenge a penalty, but this is more about officials getting it right.

"The offside rule I think is going to be discussed again, where just breaking the plane would make it a little bit easier to view it on the video," Rutherford said. "It's always hard for the linesmen regardless which way we do this because everything's happening so fast."

■ A few seasons into hybrid icing, Rutherford is concerned there are too many icing stoppages because players are skating back slower to get the call from linesmen.

"It appears to me that we now have more icings than are necessary, where a guy going back for a puck may turn the opposite way, where he could've got the puck or he may just play the opposing player at the blue line when he could've got the puck," he said. "I have to find out if other GMs feel the same way, but if we do, maybe tighten that up a bit."

■ Commissioner Gary Bettman said recently the NHL isn't planning to make radical changes to its playoff format amid what the

NBA is considering. But with two of the top three teams in the league – Boston and Tampa Bay – playing in the same division, the current divisional format of those teams potentially facing off in the second round might again be questioned.

"We were in 1 to 8 [in each conference] and there was a disparity in travel, and so we went to this format," Armstrong said. "There's going to be pros and cons to whatever decision is made. I understand the logic of talking about 1 to 8, but that's an easy talk in the Eastern Conference. It's a difficult talk in the Western Conference."

■ In-arena medical procedures worked when Blues defenceman Jay Bouwmeester collapsed on the bench earlier this month with a cardiac event. Because of the success of those protocols in situations involving Jiri Fischer, Rich Peverly and Bouwmeester, it's not an area that needs immediate attention, but will continue to be looked at to see what can be better.

"It's not something that I think anyone looks at and says, 'Okay, this is perfect,' because it's such an important thing," Armstrong said. "It's not something that will just stay stagnant. We'll always try to evolve to make sure player safety and fan safety is at the forefront of our game."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leafs: Keefe says Toronto can't afford any lapses in tight playoff race

■ FROM B9

The Canucks players were angry and shouting expletives as they entered the visitors' dressing room on Saturday night. The Maple Leafs, who play in San Jose on Tuesday, Los Angeles on Thursday and Anaheim on Friday, were giddy and whooping it up.

After winning tough games against Tampa Bay and Florida on the road, they put together another solid performance with the cast contributing. Barrie and Dermott each had two assists, John Tavares had an assist and went 15-11 in the faceoff circle, and Jason Spezza went 9-5. Nine players found the score sheet.

Keefe believes there is a connection between the way the team is playing now and the loss to Ayres a week earlier. The 42-year-old emergency goalie with a transplanted kidney saved eight of 10 shots while beating them.

"[It's] a real shock to the system when you have a night like that," Keefe said. "The connection is we got a wake-up call. When we ended on the road, we got the guys' attention on the importance of getting your stuff together, responding well.

"It's going to be tough the rest



Maple Leaf Martin Marincin celebrates his game-winning goal against the Vancouver Canucks on Saturday. The Toronto defenceman has scored only five times in six NHL seasons. NICK TURCHIARO/USA TODAY SPORTS

of the way, all the way through, and we can't have any lapses."

Toronto dressed six defencemen, including three who have spent time in the AHL this season.

Barrie, now the eldest statesman in the defensive corps, played a game-high 25:40. He has four assists in the three games since last Monday's trade-deadline day. The team received inquiries about Barrie, whose contract expires at the end of the season.

"I think he has played well," Keefe said of Barrie. "We have leaned on him a lot more because of our youth and inexperience."

Barrie said he was anxious for the last two days before the deadline.

"You have to focus on what you can, but it can be tough," he said.

On Monday, he noticed a missed call on his phone from Kyle Dubas and figured he had been dealt.

"My first thought was, 'I'm out of here,'" he said. "Where am I going?"

Dubas was calling to tell him he was not being traded.

"Now, I wanted to see it through here and finish with these guys," Barrie said. "We are fighting to get in."

Jokic’s triple-double leads Nuggets over Raps

MICHAEL KELLY DENVER

Nikola Jokic has 23 points, 18 rebounds and 11 assists for his 12th triple-double of the season to lead the Denver Nuggets over the short-handed Toronto Raptors 133-118 on Sunday night.

Jokic has 43 triple-doubles in his short career, completing his latest by feeding Jerami Grant on a dunk that helped the Nuggets pull away from the Raptors, who lost their third straight.

Grant finished with 16 points for Denver, which had eight players score in double figures.

Toronto played without Serge Ibaka and Fred VanVleet for a second straight game, but got a career night from OG Anunoby, who finished with 32 points on 12-of-16 shooting.

Toronto played without Serge Ibaka and Fred VanVleet for a second straight game, but got a career night from OG Anunoby, who finished with 32 points on 12-of-16 shooting.

The Raptors withstood the hot shooting to tie it at 60 in the second quarter and trailed just 73-69 at intermission. It was a two-point Denver lead late in the third quarter, but the Nuggets opened up a 112-101 lead with 8:10 left in the fourth.

Toronto twice cut the deficit to five points, but Denver closed it out for the win. Jokic got his ninth assist on a court-length pass to Gary Harris for a dunk midway through the fourth.

Toronto’s next game is at Phoenix on Tuesday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO ARROWS MAINTAIN WIN STREAK

MARIETTA, GA. Uruguayan international Leandro Leivas scored two tries as the Toronto Arrows remained unbeaten with a 28-18 win over Rugby ATL on Sunday in Major League Rugby play.

The Arrows (4-0-0) have won their past 11 regular-season games – the last seven in 2019 and the opening four this year. The run was interrupted by a 30-17 semi-final playoff loss to Seattle last June. Toronto and the San Diego Legion (4-0-0) are the only still unbeaten teams this season.

Argentina’s Tomas de la Vega and Uruguay’s Gaston Mieres also scored tries for Toronto, which got full value from its South American contingent. New Zealand’s Sam Malcolm added four conversions.

Alex Maughan and Neethling Gericke scored tries for Rugby ATL (2-2-0), which led 11-7 at the half. Kurt Coleman kicked two penalties and a conversion.

The Arrows had previously beaten Austin (38-10), Houston (27-22) and Seattle (39-17) to date this season. Rugby ATL opened with wins over Utah (28-19) and New Orleans’s NOLA Gold (22-10) before losing to Rugby United New York (22-19). Toronto continues its string of away games next Friday when it visits the Colorado Raptors (1-3-0), who downed the Utah Warriors 22-14 Saturday. Because of the Canadian winter, the Arrows’ home opener isn’t until April 4 against Utah. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WOLFPACK SUFFERS FIFTH CONSECUTIVE LOSS

WARRINGTON, ENGLAND The Toronto Wolfpack’s tough introduction to English rugby’s top tier continued on Saturday. The Wolfpack dropped a 32-0 decision to reigning Super League champion St. Helens to remain winless through five games.

Toronto (0-5-0) has now faced the top five teams from last year’s standings, with all five fixtures on the road. The loss was Toronto’s most lopsided this season. It will look to rebound ahead of its sixth-round clash against Leeds Rhinos on Thursday. Leeds are coming off a 36-point win over Warrington Wolves. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLS roundup

SPORTING KC BEATS WHITECAPS IN SEASON OPENER

VANCOUVER Gadi Kinda broke a tie in the 39th minute and Sporting Kansas City beat the Vancouver Whitecaps 3-1 on Saturday night in their MLS season open. Kinda gave Kansas City a 2-1 lead with a long blast into the upper right corner. Alan Pulido opened scoring for Sporting in the 17 minute and Jake Nerwinski tied it in the 28th. Erik Hurtado completed scoring for Kansas City in second-half extra time.

IMPACT OPEN SEASON WITH WIN OVER REVOLUTION

MONTREAL Maximiliano Urruti scored from distance in the 80th minute as the Montreal Impact came from behind to defeat the New England Revolution 2-1 in their MLS season opener on Saturday afternoon. Romell Quioto scored in the first half for the Impact (1-0-0) and Clément Diop made five saves in Thierry Henry’s MLS coaching debut. Teal Bunbury scored for the Revolution (0-1-0), which has not won a season opener since 2013. Goalkeeper Matt Turner allowed two goals on three shots. Tim Melia made four saves for the victory.

STOPPAGE-TIME GOAL HELPS EARTHQUAKES TIE TORONTO

SAN JOSE, CALIF. Oswaldo Alanis scored in the fifth minute of stoppage time to give the San Jose Earthquakes a 2-2 tie with Toronto FC on Saturday in their MLS season opener. Alanis scored on a 30-yard shot from the left side of the penalty box. Andy Rios pulled San Jose within one in the 53rd minute, scoring from the left side. Alejandro Pozuelo opened the scoring for Toronto on a penalty shot in the 40th minute, and Richie Laryea made it 2-0 in the 51st minute from the right side of the box. Daniel Vega made two saves for San Jose. Quentin Westberg had three for Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Manchester City striker Sergio Aguero, centre, crosses the ball during the English League Cup final against Aston Villa in London on Sunday. Manchester won 2-1. ADRIAN DENNIS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

City takes home League Cup amid larger off-field tussle

Aguero, Rodri net goals as English squad braces for possible two-season ban from European play

LONDON

Even as the investigations continue into how Manchester City’s squad was funded, its ability to collect trophies is undisputed.

Particularly the League Cup.

It’s only the secondary cup competition, but it is the first major piece of silverware handed out each season in England. And for the third consecutive season, it was Pep Guardiola’s side picking it up at Wembley, thanks to a 2-1 victory over Aston Villa on Sunday secured by first-half goals from Sergio Aguero and Rodri.

Not since Liverpool in the 1980s has a hat trick of League Cups been achieved. Liverpool will prevent City achieving such a three-peat in the Premier League, with the top two separated by 22 points.

But City has Liverpool in its sights for a bigger prize – dethroning them as Champions League winners. It could be the last opportunity before a two-season ban from European com-

petition that is being challenged in court by City lawyers.

The squad’s strength – the most expensively assembled in soccer history – was clear against Villa at Wembley. Eight players could be changed from a lineup that beat Real Madrid 2-1 in the Champions League last-16 first leg on Wednesday and still see off Villa, not with ease but comfortably enough.

Aguero struck the opener after 20 minutes after Rodri’s cross was headed into his path by Phil Foden.

Rodri was on target himself with a header on the half-hour after Ilkay Gundogan swung in a corner that should have actually been a Villa goal kick.

A slip by John Stones allowed Anwar El Ghazi to set up Mbwana Samatta to pull one back in the 41st.

It ensured City didn’t run away with this game, but the struggling Birmingham side could find no way of forcing the game to extra time.

For the fourth time in five seasons, City lifted the League Cup.

PREMIER LEAGUE ACTION

Before the League Cup final, the focus was on the race for Champions League qualification. City’s European ban adds both intrigue

and uncertainty given the appeal.

Fifth place will secure a place in the elite competition if second-place City can’t overturn the punishment for breaching of UEFA financial regulations.

Manchester United will be needing City to fail at the Court of Arbitration for Sport, as it is in fifth place and was held 1-1 at Everton on Sunday to sit three points behind Chelsea.

United goalkeeper David de Gea’s poor clearance allowed Dominic Calvert-Lewin to put Everton in front. Everton goalkeeper Jordan Pickford was then at fault for the equalizer with poor positioning allowing Bruno Fernandes to net.

Calvert-Lewin was denied a stoppage-winner winner when VAR found Gylfi Sigurdsson to be offside.

Wolverhampton is only behind United on goal difference after moving ahead of Tottenham with a 3-2 victory at the north London club.

Tottenham threw away the lead twice. Matt Doherty cancelled out Steven Bergwijn’s opener and Diogo Jota restored parity after Serge Aurier restored Tottenham’s lead. Raul Jimenez grabbed the winner.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUILT TO SCALE

Sure, anyone can launch a business. Finding the financing and customers to make it grow is another story. We talk to the entrepreneurs behind four startups—or should we say scale-ups?—about how they did it.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

▶▶▶▶▶

Pumped:
Look out, Couche-Tard: Calgary-based gas supply giant Parkland Fuel wants to eat your convenience-store lunch.

Journey to the tickle in your throat:
Can Roberto Bellini recreate some of his father’s biotech magic by solving one of medicine’s most nagging problems?

Rockets to routers:
She came to Canada as a teenage refugee. Her big break was a telemarketing job at Bell. Now she’s president and CEO of Cisco Canada.

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
ATLANTIC DIVISION								
Boston	66	41	13	5	7	218	167	94
Tampa Bay	65	41	19	5	0	230	183	87
Toronto	66	35	23	4	4	233	218	78
METROPOLITAN DIVISION								
Washington	64	39	19	4	2	222	196	84
Philadelphia	65	38	20	2	5	220	190	83
Pittsburgh	64	37	21	6	0	204	178	80
WILD CARD								
NY Islanders	64	35	21	6	2	181	175	78
Columbus	66	31	21	10	4	170	176	76
Carolina	64	35	24	5	0	207	183	75
NY Rangers	65	35	26	2	2	217	203	74
Florida	66	33	26	3	4	224	224	73
Montreal	67	30	28	8	1	203	207	69
Buffalo	65	29	28	6	2	188	205	66
New Jersey	64	25	27	6	1	174	216	62
Ottawa	66	23	31	7	5	178	224	58
Detroit	67	15	47	3	2	135	255	35

Note: the top three teams per division and the two next-best records in the conference qualify for the playoffs; a winning team is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; a team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point, which is registered in the respective OL or SL column.

Sunday	Philadelphia 5 NY Rangers 3 Calgary 3 Florida 0 Vancouver at Columbus New Jersey at Anaheim Washington at Minnesota Los Angeles at Vegas
Saturday	Boston 4 NY Islanders 0 Los Angeles 2 New Jersey 1 (OT) Tampa Bay 4 Calgary 3 Chicago 3 Florida 2 (SO) Colorado 3 Nashville 2 Ottawa 4 Detroit 3 (SO) Montreal 4 Carolina 3 (OT) Toronto 4 Vancouver 2 Arizona 5 Buffalo 2 St. Louis 4 Dallas 3 (SO) Edmonton 3 Winnipeg 2 San Jose 5 Pittsburgh 0
Friday	Colorado 3 Carolina 2 Minnesota 5 Columbus 0 Philadelphia 5 NY Rangers 2 Anaheim 3 Buffalo 2
Monday All Times Eastern	Colorado at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. Edmonton at Nashville, 8 p.m.

OHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
CENTRAL DIVISION								
x-Sudbury	60	32	27	1	0	240	230	65
x-Barrie	59	27	26	4	2	207	242	60
Mississauga	58	26	27	4	1	212	211	57
Niagara	60	18	36	5	1	190	295	42
North Bay	59	16	39	4	0	183	298	36
EAST DIVISION								
y-Ottawa	59	47	11	0	1	273	163	95
x-Peterborough	59	34	19	6	2	225	196	72
x-Oshawa	60	31	19	6	4	225	220	72
Hamilton	60	24	28	7	1	229	251	42
Kingston	59	19	36	2	2	195	271	42

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
WEST DIVISION								
x-Saginaw	59	38	16	3	2	271	214	81
x-Flint	60	39	19	1	1	267	231	80
Windsor	59	34	19	6	0	249	223	74
S.S. Marie	61	26	31	3	1	237	250	56
Sarnia	60	21	35	1	5	129	294	48
MIDWEST DIVISION								
x-London	58	41	15	1	1	249	182	84
x-Kitchener	59	38	14	5	2	248	195	83
Guelph	59	31	20	3	5	206	191	70
Owen Sound	58	28	22	4	4	225	196	64
Erie	60	24	25	4	7	218	227	59
x — clinched playoff spot								
Sunday								

Saturday	Ottawa 4 Barrie 3 (OT) Kingston 6 Flint 1 North Bay 5 Erie 4 Windsor 6 Guelph 3 Saginaw 8 Hamilton 2 Kitchener 5 Owen Sound 4 (SO)
Friday	Ottawa 4 Oshawa 1 Flint 6 Hamilton 4 Saginaw 5 Kingston 2 Sudbury 4 Niagara 2 London 4 Sault Ste. Marie 2 Kitchener 7 Sarnia 3 Guelph 5 Erie 3 Owen Sound at Mississauga, ppd.
Monday	No games scheduled

Friday

Ottawa 4 Oshawa 1
Flint 6 Hamilton 4
Saginaw 5 Kingston 2
Sudbury 4 Niagara 2
London 4 Sault Ste. Marie 2
Kitchener 7 Sarnia 3
Guelph 5 Erie 3
Owen Sound at Mississauga, ppd.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
CENTRAL DIVISION								
St. Louis	66	39	17	7	3	213	184	88
Colorado	64	39	18	6	1	221	172	85
Dallas	65	37	21	4	3	177	168	81
PACIFIC DIVISION								
Vegas	66	36	22	6	2	215	198	80
Edmonton	65	34	23	6	2	204	201	76
Calgary	67	34	26	6	1	201	206	75
WILD CARD								
Vancouver	64	34	24	3	3	211	199	74
Nashville	64	32	24	5	3	204	204	72
Winnipeg	67	33	28	4	2	201	198	72
Arizona	67	32	27	4	4	187	178	72
Minnesota	64	32	25	4	3	203	202	71
Chicago	65	29	28	4	4	195	207	66
Anaheim	64	26	30	7	1	168	202	60
San Jose	65	28	33	3	1	169	209	60
Los Angeles	65	24	35	3	3	160	205	54

SCORING LEADERS			
	G	A	Pts
Leon Draisaitl, Edm	39	63	102
David Pastrnak, Bos	47	44	91
Connor McDavid, Edm	31	58	89
Artemi Panarin, NYR	32	56	88
Nathan MacKinnon, Col	33	52	85
Brad Marchand, Bos	27	56	83
Nikita Kucherov, TB	31	49	80
Patrick Kane, Chi	28	50	78
Auston Matthews, Tor	45	32	77
Jack Eichel, Buf	35	42	77
Not including Sunday's games			

AHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
NORTH DIVISION								
Belleville	59	37	17	4	1	221	181	79
Rochester	58	31	18	4	5	169	160	71
Utica	57	31	21	3	2	201	179	67
Syracuse	59	28	22	4	4	195	203	65
Binghamton	58	30	24	4	0	170	175	64
Laval	59	27	24	5	3	170	179	62
Toronto	56	27	24	3	2	192	194	59
Cleveland	58	24	28	4	2	153	177	54
ATLANTIC DIVISION								
Hershey	59	35	18	3	3	180	153	76
Providence	58	34	18	3	3	185	148	74
Hartford	58	31	16	6	5	168	161	73
Charlotte	57	32	21	4	0	194	164	68
Springfield	58	30	26	2	0	183	179	62
W-B/Scranton	59	27	24	3	3	153	181	62
Lehigh Valley	58	24	26	2	6	150	167	56
Bridgeport	59	20	32	5	2	134	191	47

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
PACIFIC DIVISION								
Tucson	53	32	18	1	2	185	154	67
Colorado	52	31	17	3	1	174	155	66
Stockton	52	29	16	4	3	184	157	65
Ontario	55	29	20	5	1	165	191	64
San Diego	53	28	18	5	2	176	154	63
Bakersfield	53	20	25	5	3	155	195	48
San Jose	50	17	28	3	2	160	181	39
CENTRAL DIVISION								
Milwaukee	59	38	13	5	3	198	134	84
Iowa	58	36	16	3	3	185	154	78
San Antonio	57	24	21	7	5	156	169	60
Chicago	58	26	25	5	2	148	166	59
Grand Rapids	59	26	26	3	4	166	185	59
Rockford	60	28	29	1	2	150	181	59
Texas	56	24	26	2	4	155	177	54
Manitoba	59	26	32	1	0	154	184	53

Sunday	Manitoba 4 Chicago 3 (OT) Providence 3 Hartford 2 San Antonio 3 Rockford 0 Charlotte 6 Hershey 3 Binghamton 1 Bridgeport 0 Colorado 3 Milwaukee 1 Tucson at Bakersfield
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Saturday	Belleville 4 Cleveland 1 Manitoba 3 Chicago 2 (OT) Binghamton 5 Toronto 4 San Diego 4 San Jose 3 Laval 5 Utica 2 Syracuse 4 Rochester 2 Hershey 5 W-B/Scranton 1 Hartford 3 Bridgeport 1 Providence 3 Springfield 1 Charlotte 4 Lehigh Valley 2 Texas 4 Grand Rapids 2 Iowa 2 Stockton 0 Ontario 2 Bakersfield 1 (SO) Milwaukee 4 Colorado 2
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Friday	Belleville 5 Cleveland 1 Utica 7 Toronto 3 Syracuse 4 W-B/Scranton 3 Rochester 4 Laval 2 Lehigh Valley 5 Charlotte 3 Binghamton 5 Hartford 3 Bridgeport 6 Springfield 3 San Antonio 4 Grand Rapids 2 Rockford 5 Texas 4 Ontario 8 Tucson 4 San Diego 4 Stockton 2 Iowa at San Jose, ppd.
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Monday	No games scheduled
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SCORING LEADERS			
	G	A	Pts
R. Boucher, UTI	31	32	63
S. Anas, IA	18	45	63
J. Norris, BEL	30	28	58
A. Barre-Boulet, SYR	26	29	55
A. Formenton, BEL	26	26	52
B. Burke, TUC	21	31	52
D. Batherson, BEL	15	36	51
N. Goldobin, UTI	19	30	49
C. Terry, GR	19	29	48
V. Lettieri, HFD	25	22	47
J. Studnicka, PRO	22	24	46
A. Quine, STK	14	32	46
M. Bunting, TUC	11	35	46
D. Carr, MIL	21	24	45
G. Gawdin, STK	16	29	45
J. Kuokkanen, BNG	13	32	45
K. Agostino, TOR	24	20	44
A. Miele, TUC	15	29	44
Not including Sunday's games			

QMJHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
EAST DIVISION								
x-Chicoutimi	59	41	12	5	1	239	179	88
x-Rimouski	61	36	17	4	4	240	167	80
Baie-Comeau	59	23	25	7	4	192	219	57
Québec	61	25	31	4	1	194	237	55
MARITIMES DIVISION								
x-Moncton	60	47	12	1	0	265	142	95
x-Cape Breton	59	37	19	2	1	251	188	77
x-Charlottetown	61	31	25	5	0	181	194	67
Saint John	61	30	30	1	0	220	260	61
Halifax	60	19	36	3	2	161	251	43
A-Bathurst	61	12	38	7	4	163	263	35

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pts
CENTRAL DIVISION								
y-Sherbrooke	61	49	8	3	1	280	161	102
x-Drmmondville	60	34	24	2	0	218	210	70
Shawinigan	59	28	29	2	0	216	232	58
Victoriaville	60	24	27	5	4	179	191	57
WEST DIVISION								
B-Boisbriand	59	30	26	2	1	197	210	63
R-Noranda	59	27	28	2	2	170	197	58
Val-d'Or	59	25	27	5	2	197	231	57
Gatineau	61	21	35	5	0	197	236	47
x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division								
Sunday								
Charlottetown 6 Saint John 2								
Québec 5 Bois-Comeau 2								
Blainville 4 A-Bathurst 3 (OT)								
Moncton 3 Rimouski 1								
Shawinigan 8 Halifax 3								
Chicoutimi 4 Gatineau 1								
Sherbrooke 4 Rouyn-Noranda 3								



Team Wild Card’s Mike McEwen shoots against Thomas Scoffin of Team Yukon at the Brier in Kingston on Sunday. McEwen, who won 10-6, has recently found his footing playing with Colin Hodgson, Reid Carruthers and Derek Samagalski. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Team Wild Card rocks the Brier

Hodgson hopes his rebel image will bring colour to national men’s championship, an event steeped in tradition

GREGORY STRONG KINGSTON

There’s no mistaking Team Wild Card lead Colin Hodgson on the ice at the Tim Hortons Brier. A Grim Reaper tattoo is featured prominently on his ink-loaded right arm. Skull and crossbone symbols run up and down his curling broom. Combined with his hairstyle – a thick mane of dark hair with shaved sides – it makes for a rather unusual sight at the national men’s curling championship. “I’m getting edgy,” Hodgson said. “I’m feeling more comfortable in my skin than I ever have. So this is me. I’m starting to care less what other people think, and that’s relaxed me and been more fun, too.” The 29-year-old Edmonton native is a bit of an outlier in the rather staid environment at the national men’s curling championship. The sport is still steeped in tradition, with crowds that are perhaps best described as extremely polite. Hodgson’s mission is not necessarily to ramp up the rebel quotient on the ice. He’s one of the more engaging, good-natured and downright friendly athletes you’ll meet. However, he’s keen to help provide some colour and personality into the sport. As director of operations for Winnipeg-based Dynasty Apparel, he literally has the

ability to do so. Hodgson’s company is the official uniform partner of Curling Canada. He has helped inject vibrancy and fashion into curler kits, which have become more sleek and attractive in recent seasons. “I think the Brier is ready for anything,” he said. “The new uniform stuff and us going more crazy, I think curling fans are completely changing their tune. Now that things are available, people are all over it. “We’ve got the Joker hats, we’ve got the angry moose sweaters, people are really trying to latch on to something and feel something with their apparel and how they’re representing at the Brier.” Subtle touches are sometimes added to provincial/territorial uniforms each season. Symbols are often added on shirt backs – the Newfoundland dog is one example – and all teams this year have an image of Kingston City Hall emblazoned on the side of their shirts and jackets. “People have been so nice to me and generous,” Hodgson said. “They’re reaching out and happy that we’re doing different things.” Hodgson and his Wild Card teammates are getting results on the ice, too. It took a little while for the foursome of Hodgson, skip Mike McEwen, third Reid Carruthers and second Derek Samagalski to find their footing after teaming up two years ago. But now, they’re up to fourth in the Canadian rankings and are off to a great start at

the Brier. McEwen, who edged Glenn Howard in the play-in game to earn the last spot in the 16-team field, beat Yukon’s Thomas Scoffin 10-6 on Sunday to improve to 2-0. “I think this team can win, we’re in a great place,” Hodgson said. “We still haven’t played our best yet and we’re comfortable. So that’s awesome, too. I think we’ve got a good vibe going. Alberta’s Brendan Bottcher also won his second straight round-robin game with a 9-4 victory over Nunavut’s Jake Higgs. In other early matchups, Northern Ontario’s Brad Jacobs defeated Prince Edward Island’s Bryan Cochrane 6-2, and Saskatchewan’s Matt Dunstone outscored James Grattan of New Brunswick 10-6. Manitoba’s Jason Gunnlaugson stole two points in the 10th end for an 8-6 win over Quebec’s Alek Bédard in the afternoon, and Brad Gushue of Newfoundland and Labrador topped Nova Scotia’s Jamie Murphy 5-2. Canada’s Kevin Koe beat brother Jamie Koe of the Northwest Territories 7-3, and Ontario’s John Epping dumped British Columbia’s Steve Laycock 11-3. Draw 5 was scheduled for Sunday night at the Leon’s Centre. The preliminary round continues through Wednesday night. The Page Playoffs begin Saturday and the final is scheduled for March 8.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Im ekes out win over Hughes at Honda Classic

TIM REYNOLDS PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLA.

Im Sung-jae is tireless, and no longer winless. The 21-year-old South Korean started fast and finished stronger Sunday, winning The Honda Classic by one shot over Canadian Mackenzie Hughes and Tommy Fleetwood for his first career PGA Tour victory in his 50th attempt. Im shot a four-under 66 on Sunday, finishing at six under to match the second-highest winning score since the Honda moved to PGA National in 2007. He was the tour’s rookie of the year last season, plus has played more tournaments and more rounds than anyone since the 2018-19 season began nearly a year and a half ago. And now, he’s a winner – the seventh from South Korea to win on tour, and the Honda’s 10th international champion in the past 16 seasons. He’s also the fifth player to get that first win at PGA National in the Honda, joining Keith Mitchell in 2019, Michael Thompson in 2013, Y.E. Yang in 2009 and Mark Wilson in 2007. Im birdied four of his first five holes, then birdied two of the final four to finish off the victory and pick up US\$1.26-million. Hughes, from Dundas, Ont., who made the cut on the number Friday, shot his second consecutive 66. Playing alongside Im, he was part of some serious fireworks on the last two holes and missed a birdie putt at the par-five finishing hole that would have got him into a tie for the top spot. Fleetwood, who is still seeking his first PGA Tour win, started the day one shot clear of the field, and started birdie-birdie to get to seven under at that point – matching what was the low score in relation to par of the week. Then PGA National did what it usually does – that being not letting anyone run away from the pack. Fleetwood made bogey on the par-four sixth and couldn’t get up and down from a greenside bunker on the par-four eighth, giving back what was left of his lead at that point and sharing the top spot at five under with Im and Steele. Moments after Im finished, Fleetwood made a 25-footer for birdie on the par-three 17th to get to five under.

But Fleetwood’s second on the par-five finishing hole leaked right and splashed into the water, and once his attempt at a miracle hole-out after a drop from 120 yards didn’t fall, Im could finally exhale as the winner. That’s when Im could hug his caddy in the locker room, where he watched the last 20 minutes or so on a monitor. “I’ve been in this spot many times. ... I just felt like the experience really helped,” Im said through a translator. Some of Im’s best moments have come when no one has been looking. He was third at the Zozo Championship in Japan last October, a finish totally overshadowed by Tiger Woods tying the PGA Tour record of 82 career victories. And in November, he went 3-1-1 to tie for the best showing by a player on the International team at the Presidents Cup, but the U.S. team captained by Woods rallied in singles on the final day to win the trophy at Royal Melbourne. But this time, he was on centre stage and embraced the moment. Hughes and Im went to the par-three 17th green – the end of the “Bear Trap” three-hole stretch – in wildly different spots. Im stuck his tee ball to just inside of eight feet, while Hughes had nearly 55 feet left from above the hole. Hughes rolled in his most improbable birdie to an enormous roar, pulling into a tie with Im at five under. If Im was worried, it didn’t show. Im took a couple looks at his downhill line, took his putter back just a couple of inches and watched the ball roll in for a birdie that allowed him to reclaim his lead at six under – this time, for good.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Schmirler’s memory lives on among Canadian curlers

DONNA SPENCER

Sara England is accustomed to people she doesn’t know telling her they held her when she was a baby. The 22-year-old knows that’s how they connect to her mother still revered by the Canadian curling community. Sandra Schmirler died 20 years ago Monday from cancer at the age of 36. Her legacy encompasses a gold standard every Canadian women’s team strives to match in competition. The Sandra Schmirler Foundation has raised \$4.7-million for life-saving equipment in more than 60 neonatal intensive-care units across Canada. But those who knew Schmirler believe she would consider daughters Sara and Jenna her greatest achievement. “Every person across Canada I think knows my mom,” Sara said. “My sister and I were so young when she passed that we really didn’t get to know her and don’t really have memories. I know that’s hard for some people to hear and understand. “When people come up and talk to me about her, memories and stories and all that kind of stuff, that’s how I get to know her even more.” While Colleen Jones was racking up Canadian titles at the turn of this century, she rebuffed suggestions hers might be greatest women’s curling team in Canada. Jones said then “we’ll never know how good that team might have been.” “That team” was Regina’s Schmirler, Jan Betker, Joan McCusker and Marcia Gude-reit. In a span of five years between 1993 and 1998, the four women claimed three Canadian championships, three world titles and an Olympic gold medal in Nagano, Japan. “At that period of time, nobody could touch them,” Hall of Fame men’s curler Russ Howard said. Curling was officially added to the Olympic program in 1998 after years as a demonstration sport. Schmirler’s in-off to win the 1997 Cana-

dian trials and wear the Maple Leaf in Nagano is still a staple of curling highlight reels. “She never met a shot she didn’t like,” Howard said. “Extremely good hitter, good drawer and strategist.” Schmirler won her first world title in 1993 in Geneva, where Howard also skipped Canada to men’s gold. Schmirler’s infectious smile and her team’s ability to joke at its own expense endeared them to people, but it hid an inner swag-ger. “They knew deep down they were going to beat you,” Howard said. “That’s why they’re having fun.” Howard introduced Schmirler’s team to rock matching – looking for a set of eight consistent stones – which was a novel strategy at that time. That and her team’s athleticism helped put them ahead of the curve for 1998, he said. “They set the bar for I think a lot of the female teams,” Schmirler’s husband, Shannon England, said. Schmirler was pregnant with Jenna when she lost the 1999 Saskatchewan women’s final. The fame that comes with winning Olympic gold, combined with jobs, young families and curling, was a lot for the team to manage. The unanswerable question is how much more success Schmirler and her teammates would have achieved if not for her untimely death. “I guess we’ll never know, right?” Gude-reit said. “The one thing I do know is that we were best friends on the ice and we were best friends off the ice. We would have continued to be friends forever.” Had they kept up their pursuit of curling glory, more national and international titles were possible.



Sandra Schmirler

“How many more? I would say probably at least double what they did,” said Robin Wilson, a former national champion who worked for the sponsor of the Canadian women’s championship for years. But just more than two years after skipping Canada to its first Olympic gold medal in curling, Schmirler was gone. Sara is a competitive curler competing at a provincial level. Her mother’s triumphs were in the pre-digital era, so Sara hasn’t watched a lot of footage of Sandra curling. What Sara treasures is an audio recording of Sandra singing *Part of Your World* from the *Little Mermaid* soundtrack, while Sandra was in hospital giving birth to Jenna. The Sandra Schmirler Foundation telethon for neonatal care is a fixture of opening weekend at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. It’s common for a handful of women competing at the national championship to be in various stages of pregnancy, which makes Schmirler’s legacy all the more poignant. “Obviously, I wasn’t around much when she was playing, but I think a big one was proving that mothers can be competitive athletes and successful athletes,” Sara said. There were all those big wins, too. “She did set those standards pretty high,” said Kerri Einarson, the skip of this year’s national women’s champion competing in the world championship later this month. “She was amazing. I think all of us around my age always looked up to her. That’s something she did for women’s curling and all the younger kids.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BIRTH AND DEATH NOTICES

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■ DEATHS

MARY BERNSTEIN

On Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Baycrest. Beloved wife of the late Jack Bernstein. Loving mother of Harriet Bernstein, and the late Marc Bernstein. Dear sister and sister-in-law of Ellen and the late Martin Weisner, and the late Rose and Mickey Weiner. Devoted grandmother of Samantha Bernstein (Michael Bobbie), and great-grandmother to their children Ida and Nell. Nee Mary Cohen (Mother Minnie, Father Samuel) in Philadelphia, Mary was an exceptionally gifted musician, first as a child prodigy on the violin, then as a concert soloist and opera singer. She studied in New York City under Teresa Schnabel, and won the Marion Anderson Scholarship. She also did commercials for Chunky Chocolate and sang in the Borscht Belt. She came to Toronto on a gig, and Jack was the welcoming committee. A few months later, he proposed backstage during intermission at her concert. Mary performed many concerts at Massey Hall with the TSO, including the premier of John Weinzweig's, "Wine of Peace", and the Schubert cycle "Die Winterreise", which was her signature piece. Mary was one of the few women in the world ever to perform this difficult opus. She also sang leading roles with Canadian Opera Company. She shed a magnificent, open-mouthed laugh, and tremendous sense of humour, often cutting up onstage and in the choir at Beth Tzedec. Because of her inquiring mind, she was known to some as Mary of the Million Questions. A graveside service will be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. in Beth Tzedec Memorial Park, 5822 Bathurst Street, Toronto. Shiva following the burial and on Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 10 Shallmar Blvd, #1007, Toronto, 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to The Canadian Picture Pioneers, 416-368-1139.



DIANA MARIE PENDER

Passed away peacefully on February 23, 2020 at the age of 62 after enjoying watching her beloved Maple Leafs shut out the Penguins. Devoted wife to Tony Da Silva for 20 years, cherished step mom to Michael Da Silva (Tamara), younger sister to Darlene (Bill), loving aunt to Chelsea and Logan, a beloved daughter of the late Earl and Frances Pender. Diana was too modest to recognize her own beauty, or the success of her financial career. She inspired loyalty in friends and respect for all who met her because of her warmth, genuine interest in others and caring nature. Diana's sense of humour and lively spirit will be deeply missed.

In memory of Diana, donations may be made to the ALS Society of Canada.

"A beautiful life that came to an end, She died as she lived, everyone's friend."

In our hearts a memory will always be kept, of one we loved, and will never forget."

LYNDA ELAINE PICOV

Wonderful and loving wife, sister, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother passed away peacefully in the company of family on Thursday, February 27, 2020. Daughter of the late Toby and Al Snitman, she leaves behind a lifetime of memories for her husband Norman, sister Fern, son Barry and wife Robin, son Andrew and wife Ava, grandchildren Justin and his wife Abbey, Carly, Alana, Anika and Alex, and great-grandson Everest. A woman with an infectious laugh, kind heart and fierce will to live, Lynda devoted her life to her family and wide circle of friends and more recently loved being a great-grandmother. Thank you to the outstanding team of her caregivers who she truly loved and who made her life so much more comfortable for almost a decade.

At Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel, 2401 Steeles Avenue West (3 lights west of Dufferin) for service on Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Interment at Beth Tzedec Memorial Cemetery.

Donations in her memory can be made to The Virtual Counselling Groups, supported by the Pico Family Foundation c/o Baycrest Foundation, (416) 785-2875 or www.baycrestfoundation.org

■ DEATHS



Hon. DAVID PAUL SMITH
P.C., Q.C.

Born May 16, 1941 in Toronto and passed February 26, 2020 in Toronto.

David was the second son of the Rev. Campbell Bannerman and Beulah Argue. He is survived by his wife of almost fifty years, the Hon. Heather Forster Smith, former Chief Justice of the Ontario Superior Court; their children Alex Smith (Samantha Marks), Kate Smith (Leif Malling), and Laura O'Connor (Dennis O'Connor); five granddaughters (Cosette, Hannah, Grace, Annabelle and Eloise); and his brothers George (Barbara) and Bob (Brenda). He was predeceased by his dear sister, Cay Lindblad, and is mourned by generations of extended family, including the Smith, Lindblad, Forster and Klapman families, and countless friends from across Canada.

David grew up in Toronto, Victoria B.C., and Peterborough, where he graduated high school. He studied political science at Carleton University and law at Queen's University, from which he graduated in 1970.

David's professional life was divided between a legal career, which he thoroughly enjoyed, and politics, which he loved. A passionate Canadian and Torontonian, David served as President of the Young Liberals under Prime Minister Pearson and executive assistant to the Right Hon. John Turner in the 1960s; as a Toronto Alderman and Deputy Mayor in the 1970s; as an MP and Cabinet Minister under Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in the 1980s; as a leader of successful Liberal Party campaigns under Prime Minister Jean Chretien in the 1990s and in 2000; and as a Senator representing Cobourg, Ontario, from 2002 until his retirement from Parliament in 2016. In more than half a century in politics, David mentored scores of politicians and activists in federal, provincial and municipal politics. He respected everyone who shared his sincere commitment to public life, regardless of party affiliation or ideology.

A specialist in municipal law, David helped forge the skyline of Toronto. Following years in private practice with many wonderful colleagues at various firms, David served as Chair of FMC Law, now Dentons Canada LLP, until his appointment to the Senate in 2002, then continued as Chair Emeritus of Dentons Canada LLP until his retirement from the practice of law in 2017.

David's community service beyond politics included service on the boards of Toronto General Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital, George Brown College, Royal St. George's College, Exhibition Place, Massey Hall, Roy Thomson Hall, and the Salvation Army, which honoured him as a Life Member of its Advisory Board.

A person of faith, David was active in many church communities, including the Pentecostal Church (particularly Lakeshore Pentecostal Camp near Cobourg, which he visited throughout his life), Yorkminster Park Baptist Church and the Church of the Redeemer in Toronto.

David was a kind, generous and loving man. He will be profoundly missed. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Salvation Army. A private family funeral was held on February 29th. A celebration of his life will be held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church at 1585 Yonge Street in Toronto on March 27th at 2 p.m. Condolences may be forwarded through www.humphreymiles.com.

Humphrey Funeral Home
A.W. Miles Newbigging Chapel
416-487-4523

■ FUNERAL SERVICES



SUNDAY
SHAPIRO, Sylvia - PRIVATE FAMILY SERVICE.
PAUL, Stanley - 11:00 Pardes Chaim.
STEIDMAN, Eleanor - 11:00 Chapel.
VAN BUREN, Bernard - 12:30 Chapel.
KRAKAUER, Albert (Ubbly) - 1:30 Har Zion.
PICOV, Lynda - 2:00 Chapel.

MONDAY
GETZ, Brenda - 11:00 Chapel.
BERNSTEIN, Mary - 12:30 Beth Tzedec Memorial Park.

SHIVA
LOEWENTHAL, Peter - 196 Cranbrooke Avenue.
MATLOW, Ely - 36 Hillmount Avenue.
PAUL, Stanley - 7440 Bathurst Street, # 608, Thornhill, Ontario.
STEIDMAN, Eleanor - 110 Promenade Cir., Social Rm., Thornhill, Ontario.
VAN BUREN, Bernard - 120 Vaughan Blvd., Thornhill, Ontario.
KRAKAUER, Albert (Ubbly) - 51 Old 17th Avenue, Markham, Ontario.

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Zeuch falls short as Pirates clip Jays

BRADENTON, FLA.

Blue Jays right-hander T.J. Zeuch allowed three home runs in the seventh inning as Toronto fell 13-9 to the Pittsburgh Pirates on Sunday in spring-training play.

Zeuch, a 2016 first-round draft pick who made his MLB debut with Toronto last season, worked 1½ innings and allowed solo homers to Gregory Polanco and Lolo Sanchez and a two-run shot to Oneil Cruz.

Bo Bichette and Joe Panik hit two-run homers for Toronto, while Vladimir Guerrero Jr. added

a solo shot.

Off-season acquisition Chase Anderson started the game for the Blue Jays, allowing four runs, three hits and three walks over two-thirds of an inning.

Toronto's top prospect Nate Pearson pitched two innings in relief, striking out three.

Joe Musgrove earned the win for Pittsburgh. He allowed two runs, struck out two and walked two in three innings.

The Blue Jays open their regular season at home March 26 against the Boston Red Sox.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

BLONDIN CAPTURES WORLD ALLROUND SPEEDSKATING SILVER

HAMAR, NORWAY Ivania Blondin captured a silver medal in the overall standings at the ISU world allround speedskating championships on Sunday, the punctuation mark on a season that has seen her dominate at multiple distances. The 29-year-old from Ottawa is the first Canadian woman to reach the overall podium at the event since Christine Nesbitt in 2012. Blondin had a cumulative time of 160.462 seconds over four races, 9.38 seconds behind world champion Ireen Wust of the Netherlands. Blondin was fourth in the 5,000 metres and fifth in the 1,500 on Sunday, to follow up her second-place finish in the 3,000 and eighth in the 500 on Saturday. Wust was crowned world allround for the seventh time in her career, reaching the podium in three of four distances. Dutch teammate Antoinette de Jong won the bronze. Ted-Jan Bloemen of Calgary was the top Canadian in the men's event in seventh. Jordan Belchos of Toronto was a career-best eighth. Patrick Roest of the Netherlands earned his third consecutive world allround title.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANADA FINISHES 10TH AT HSBC LOS ANGELES SEVENS

CARSON, CALIF. Canada had to settle for 10th place at the HSBC Los Angeles Sevens on Sunday after losing a 21-19 heart-breaker to Argentina as Matias Osadczuk scored with no time remaining and Santiago Mare added the conversion. Canada looked to have won the game after co-captain Nathan Hirayama's converted try in the 12th minute. But the Pumas kept coming, scoring after a quick-tap penalty near the Canadian goal-line. Fiji met South Africa in the Cup final later Sunday at Dignity Health Sports Park with the U.S. event returning to California after a decade in Las Vegas. The Fijians have stumbled early this season but were coming off a championship win over the Blitzboks in Sydney, Australia, last time out. Sakoyisa Makata scored in extra time as South Africa rallied to defeat Fiji 29-24 in the final. It is South Africa's fifth title in an American tournament, which is the most of any team. The teams now head north for next weekend's HSBC Canada Sevens in Vancouver. Canada came into the U.S. tournament in 10th spot in the overall standings after the first four events of the HSBC World Rugby Seven Series. On Saturday, Canada defeated Kenya 24-0 and lost 17-12 to Ireland and 33-5 to South Africa.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

KINGSBURY ADDS DUAL MOGULS SILVER TO COLLECTION

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN Canadian freestyle skiing star Mikaël Kingsbury climbed the World Cup podium for the ninth time this season on Sunday, finishing second in a dual moguls event. The 27-year-old from Deux-Montagnes, Que., finished behind Japanese rival and friend Ikuma Horishima. Laurent Dumais, a 24-year-old from Quebec City, finished third - the Canadian's second podium result this season. Justine Dufour-Lapointe was the top Canadian in the women's event in 10th place. Canadian teammate Maia Schwinghammer was 11th, while Chloé Dufour-Lapointe was 12th.

CANADIAN ABEL STRIKES GOLD TWICE AT DIVING WORLD

MONTREAL Jennifer Abel added to her trophy case at the FINA Div-

ing World Series on Sunday. The 28-year-old, who had already won a gold medal with Mélissa Citrini-Beaulieu in the women's three-metre synchro springboard earlier in the competition, came away with two more gold medals on the final day. Abel prevailed in the women's three-metre springboard Sunday afternoon, then teamed up with François Imbeau-Dulac an hour later to win the mixed three-metre synchro. A three-time Olympian, Abel led through all but one round of her individual competition, finishing over 40 points ahead of second-place Mariia Poliakova of Russia. Australian Anabelle Smith won bronze. Canadian Pamela Ware finished in fifth place, less than six points from a top-three finish. Abel and Imbeau-Dulac barely edged out Thomas Daley and Grace Reid of Britain en route to first place in the mixed event. The Mexican team of Dolores Hernandez and Osmar Olvera finished in third place. Canada's Vincent Riendeau came up short of the podium in the men's 10-metre platform, finishing in fourth place.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MADRID ENDS SLUMP AGAINST BARCELONA

MADRID Real Madrid beat Barcelona 2-0 in the "clasico" at the Santiago Bernabeu on Sunday to end its seven-match winless streak against its rival and return to the top of the Spanish league. Vinicius Junior scored in the 71st minute and substitute Mariano Diaz sealed the victory in stoppage time to give Madrid a one-point lead over Barcelona and halt the team's recent struggles. Zinedine Zidane's Madrid was winless in three straight games in all competitions, and also hadn't won at home in three consecutive games. Madrid had lost its previous four league games at the Bernabeu against Barcelona.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADA TO FACE U.S. NEXT AT CONCACAF U-20 CHAMPIONSHIP

SAN CRISTOBAL, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Tanya Boychuk scored twice from the penalty spot and Jazmine Wilkinson added two goals in two minutes to help Canada blank Cuba 6-0 in round-of-16 play Saturday at the CONCACAF Women's Under-20 Championship. The win earned Canada (2-1-1) a date with the powerful United States (4-0-0) in the quarter-final Wednesday. There will be plenty on the line given only the semi-final winners advance to the FIFA U-20 World Cup in August. The two tournament finalists will join co-hosts Costa Rica and Panama as CONCACAF representatives at the FIFA U-20 championship.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FERNANDEZ LOSES IN FINAL, MOVES TO NO. 126 IN WTA RANKS

ACAPULCO, MEXICO Canada's Leylah Annie Fernandez came up short in her bid to win a WTA event for the first time, losing to Britain's Heather Watson 6-4, 6-7 (8), 6-1 on Saturday in the Mexican Open final. It was the deepest the 17-year-old Fernandez has ever got in a WTA tournament. Fernandez entered the tournament ranked 190th in the world, but will reach No. 126 when the WTA rankings are updated on Monday. Her previous best was 185th on Feb. 3. She became the first Canadian to ever reach the Mexican Open final and the youngest finalist in the tournament's history after beating Mexico's Renata Zarazua 6-3, 6-3, in Friday's semi-final.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVID GARDNER

ACTOR, DIRECTOR, 91

PERFORMER AND PRODUCER
WAS DEVOTED TO TELLING
CANADIAN STORIES

David Gardner, seen outside Toronto's Hart House Theatre in 1977, participated in more than 800 roles on stage, radio and in film and television in Canada. ERIK CHRISTENSEN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

In addition to various celebrated parts on stage and screen, he developed a blueprint for the National Theatre School of Canada and worked for Canada Council

SUSAN FERRIER MacKAY

David Gardner, actor, director, educator and historian shone in his role as a champion of Canadian film and theatre. His performing credits, as well as his work behind the scenes, earned him a place in the *Canadian Encyclopedia of Theatre* and the *Canadian Who's Who*.

He performed at Scotland's Edinburgh Festival, and in London, but he did the majority of his work at home in Canada. Mr. Gardner directed and produced more than 70 dramas for CBC Television, including the network's first feature, *The Paper People*, written by Timothy Findley. It won a Wilderness Award for direction in 1969. Other awards followed, including an ACTRA (1978) for *Bethune*, in which he played opposite Donald Sutherland, and a Gemini (1997) for his leading role in *Traders*, a TV series based around a Toronto investment firm. His daughter, Jennifer Gardner, however, says her father's proudest achievement was developing a blueprint for the establishment of the National Theatre School of Canada (NTSC). The school opened in Montreal in 1960.

In the decade following the creation of the NTSC, Mr. Gardner immersed himself in his chosen field, demonstrating that he was willing to take risks. In the early 1960s, he directed a daring Inuit interpretation of *King Lear* starring William Hutt for Canadian Players, a touring company formed in Stratford, Ont. His influence extended further in 1971 when, as theatre officer for the Canada Council, he convened a Canadian conference on play writing to facilitate the telling of Canadian stories in Ottawa. He arranged for various regional theatre companies to produce at least one Canadian play each season. His other noteworthy achievement in that position was lobbying successfully for more than 20 new theatres across the country to be subsidized.

"He expanded theatre for every one of us and provided work for so many people," said Gail Carr, a casting director who was also a family friend. Mr. Gardner was also generous when it came to extending a hand to young talent.

Actor Gordon Pinsent says Mr. Gardner played a seminal role in launching his own long career. In his capacity as producer, Mr. Gardner spent an afternoon auditioning the then-unknown actor from Newfoundland before assigning him the title role of Quentin Durgens, M.P., a popular CBC Television series focused on the life of a member of Parliament. "David was a very special kind of individual and a pleasure to work with," Mr. Pinsent told *The Globe* in a telephone interview.

"Bright blue eyes, wonderful energy. He knew how to bring out the best in actors because he'd been one himself."

Mr. Gardner died of Alzheimer's disease at Toronto General Hospital on Feb. 8 at the age of 91.

Drifting away from acting and producing in late mid-life, having earned a PhD from the Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama at the University of Toronto, Mr. Gardner was drawn to the world of teaching. He wrote extensively about the history of Canadian theatre for various publications, mentored and motivated students at the University of Toronto and York University, and for 20 years ran an annual course at George Brown College called Acting for the Camera.

Canadian to the core, Mr. Gardner strove to imbue young talent with his own enthusiasm for his country's stage and screen productions. In unpublished memoirs titled *The Theatrical Adventures of a Shy Extrovert*, Mr. Gardner recalled seeing his first movie, a Western, around age four. "I ducked behind the seats and returned the gunfire, startling my parents. But the fascination had begun."

He expanded theatre for every one of us and provided work for so many people.

GAIL CARR
CASTING DIRECTOR

David Emmett Gardner was born on May 4, 1928, in Toronto, the eldest of two boys born to David and Madeleine Gardner. His father painted houses for a living while dabbling in landscape painting. He passed the hobby on to young David who continued it into late adulthood. From the ages of 11 to 14, David was a basement impresario mounting puppet and marionette shows in his parents' house. He called it Snow-Bell Theatre and charged 2 cents for admission so that he and his brother could afford to go to the Saturday afternoon matinee at the local cinema.

While attending high school at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute in Toronto (1942-46) he made his professional debut on CBC radio in the fairy-tale series *Once Upon a Time*. During his first stint at the University of Toronto, he earned a BA in Art and Archaeology then later, in 1974, he received his MA in drama. He became a constant presence at the university's Hart House Theatre, starring as Macbeth, Othello and Mark Antony. Fearing the loss of his obvious talent, Hart House Theatre director Robert McGill told Mr. Gardner, "Don't go to the States. Become a professional here."

The young man heeded this advice. He played in summer stock, making his first film for the National Film Board in 1949. CBC Television launched in 1952, providing another outlet and the daring thrill of going on-air live, where one costume would be worn underneath another to facilitate quick changes and where mishaps could, and did, occur. "He got a kick out of ad-libbing," Ms. Gardner said. "He was good at it."

He also acted for three seasons at the Stratford Festival. From 1969 to 71, Mr. Gardner served as artistic director for the Vancouver Playhouse, resigning in protest when the theatre board refused to allow a production that focused on the politically sensitive October Crisis of 1970 in Quebec. He was a firm believer in freedom of speech.

During many assignments at the CBC, Mr. Gardner got to know, and eventually marry, Dorothy Rosemary Wood, a petite CBC employee who would become head of casting. Jennifer was their only child. A quiet couple who adored movies, the Gardners could easily see 55 movies together in 10 days during Toronto's International Film Festival. Mr. Gardner adored his wife and her vegetarian cooking. He showered her dishes with praise. Away from her in a restaurant, though, his first choice was usually a large burger.

Even as he switched into academia, Mr. Gardner received many offers of work. He found it difficult to say no. The only way he could complete his PhD thesis on the history of Canadian theatre was to remove himself and his family from the country. They spent six months incommunicado in Barbados so he could concentrate on finishing his degree.

Academics aside, Mr. Gardner's participation in more than 800 roles on stage, radio, film and television in Canada would seem to ensure widespread household recognition. Instead, he flew quietly beneath fame's radar. While public recognition was never the motivating factor behind Mr. Gardner's achievements, his daughter felt strongly that he deserved an Order of Canada. Unbeknownst to him, she nominated him for the award in 2014.

"When I heard the news he didn't get it I thought this is madness," Mr. Pinsent said. "It bothered me quite a bit. David was one of the forerunners who got CBC drama and Canadian theatre off the ground."

Robert Sherrin, lifetime friend and producer of *Bethune* said, "David was not someone to seek the limelight. I don't think he cared about awards. But he was extremely generous with his time and knowledge. He was all about doing the work."

David Gardner leaves his daughter, Jennifer. He was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy, in 2011.

Special to The Globe and Mail

JA'NET DUBOIS

ACTOR, 74

Co-star of TV's *Good Times* also wrote and sang theme song for *The Jeffersons*

SANDRA E. GARCIA

Ja'Net DuBois, the actor who played the sassy Willona Woods in the 1970s TV show *Good Times* and sang the theme song to *The Jeffersons*, died on Feb. 17.

Ms. DuBois died in her sleep at her home in Glendale, Calif., surrounded by family, her youngest daughter, Kesha Gupta-Fields, said.

Good Times was one of the first black sitcoms that featured a two-parent home. Ms. DuBois played Willona, the single, upstairs neighbour to Florida Evans, the matriarch of the show's family. Willona was stylish and had a big heart. She did not hesitate to take in Penny, an abused child played by a young Janet Jackson.

While she was taping *Good Times*, Ms. DuBois told Norman Lear, an executive producer on the show, that she wanted to branch out. Mr. Lear suggested she work on the theme song to *The Jeffersons*, Ms. Gupta-Fields said.

After speaking to her mother about her own family's aspirations to move up in life, she wrote *Movin' On Up*. "She wrote that song as a promise to her mother, that when she obtained a certain level of stardom, that her dream was to essentially have her mom live in a deluxe apartment," Ms. Gupta-Fields said. "That was written and sung as a gift to her mother, Lillian DuBois."

Ms. DuBois felt that she had lived the song herself, she told *Jet* magazine in 1992. "I moved my whole family," she said.

"I bought her a house, bought her a mink coat," Ms. DuBois said of her mother. "I did everything, retired her. I did everything I ever promised her."

Movin' On Up became widely known as a jubilant, aspirational theme song for black Americans.

"It provided a lot of black people with an anthem," Ms. Gupta-Fields said. "For them it provided a lot of encouragement."

On Tuesday, Mr. Lear, who also produced *The Jeffersons*, called *Movin' On Up* the "song of her passing" on Twitter.

"Ja'Net DuBois was all light and will be missed," he wrote.

Her family said Ms. DuBois was 74 when she died, but public records indicate she was older.

Jeanette DuBois was born in Philadelphia and was raised by her mother, Lillian. The family did not have much, but they had a home and food to eat, Ms. Gupta-Fields said. "That was just the state of the world for African-American families," she said.

When she got older, Ms. DuBois moved to Brooklyn to act on Broadway.

She was in *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Diary of a Mad Housewife* and other Broadway plays, her daughter said. In the 1960s, after spending time running a youth acting workshop in Amityville, N.Y., Ms. DuBois moved to Los Angeles to appear in *Good Times*.

This month, Ms. DuBois spent "joyous, wonderful family time" with some of the cast of *Good Times*, Ms. Gupta-Fields said.

"She remembered her time on the show very fondly," she said.

After *Good Times*, Ms. DuBois had roles in *I'm Gonna Git You Sucka*, *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle* and many sitcoms from the 1990s. Ms. DuBois was a two-time Emmy winner for her role as Mrs. Avery, a combative neighbour in a housing project on *The PJs*, an animated show created by Eddie Murphy and Larry Wilmore.

Two months ago, on *Good Times: Live in Front of a Studio Audience*, during which Hollywood actors redid an episode of *Good Times*, Ms. DuBois told Jimmy Kimmel that she was "happy that Norman saw her in another film she was doing and said, 'I want you for a TV role.'"

"She gave him a lot of respect for putting her in a position to birth Willona," Ms. Gupta-Fields said.

Off camera, Ms. DuBois raised a family and worked to break stereotypes in Hollywood.

She leaves her son, Provat Gupta, her daughters Rani Gupta and Kesha Gupta-Fields, and a sister, Lillian DuBois.

In 1992, Ms. DuBois founded the Pan African Film and Arts Festival with actors Danny Glover and Ayuko Babu, showcasing works by people of African descent.

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE



Ja'net DuBois
FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES



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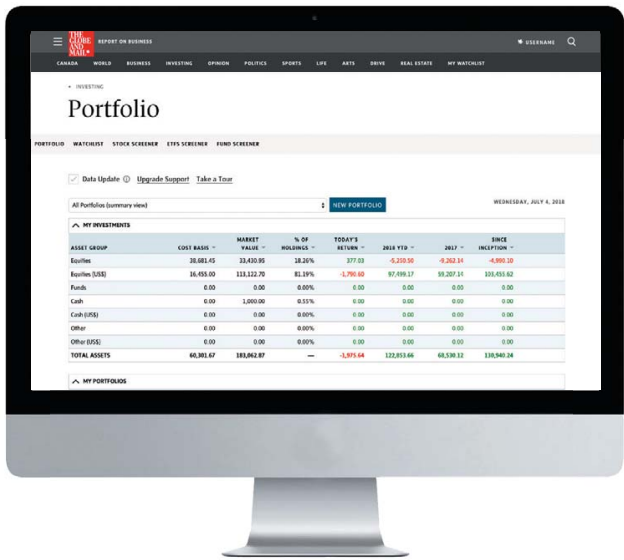
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