

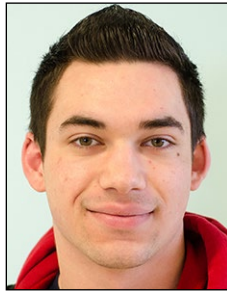
## On the street

Gabrielle Smith asked people at Loyalist College the following question:

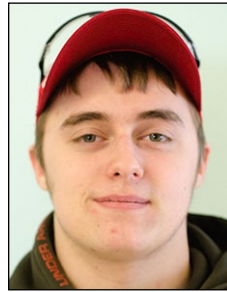
**Were you satisfied with your sex ed? Why or why not?**



**Omar Waddell, police foundations,** "They started sex ed in Grade 6, which was the wrong time. They just scared you with STDs and a lot of it was a joke. They needed to talk more about long-term effects and your health."



**Nicholas Paiva, welding,** "I was homeschooled till Grade 12 and my parents didn't talk about it at all. It doesn't really matter to me."



**Bradley Dall, automotive,** "I was pretty satisfied with mine. It brought everything to my attention and was laid out perfectly. I don't think it needed to be revamped."



**Kate Rogers, co-ordinator of career and college prep,** "I guess I was satisfied. I'm not sure at that time if I would have known what it should have been. I was too young to analyze what was missing."



**Crystal Rhode, architectural technology,** "There was so much missing. They needed to teach us how to be safe and smart about it, and the resources if something did happen."



**Liz Jarvis, biotech and chemical engineering,** "I didn't learn it. I was in a Catholic school and everyone just laughed. Even in high school, we didn't learn a single thing. They ignored it."

## Editorial

# Young people need to get politically active

The number of discarded votes by voters aged 18 to 34 in the previous federal election could have the power to change and shape our nation into the kind of country we as citizens want to live in and be proud of.

While touted as apathetic and entitled by many observers, millennials need to become engaged and exercise our democratic rights to make a decision on governance with the best tool available: casting a vote in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Canadian general election.

In the 2011 federal election, voters aged 18 to 24 had recorded the lowest percentage of eligible voters to cast their ballots and have their say in who and how our country is governed.

This means, according to Statistics Canada reports, that only 1,154,401 of a possible 2,974,589 electors in this age group went to the polls. Voters aged 25 to 34 casted slightly more ballots at 45 per cent turnout.

Civic discourse among this demographic has changed from taking and rallying in the streets to posting on Facebook, Twitter and website comment sections. Young voters need to show our elected members how they feel by going to the polls on Election Day and making an informed decision.

If young people want to have their issues addressed at a federal level, a critical mass needs to show the federal government that the number of votes looked over by pandering their agendas to the demographics with highest voter turnout is far from negligible.

In comparison to votes cast by electors aged 18 through 34, those cast by the voters aged 45 to 74 maintained nearly twice the percentage of votes from 18 to 24 year olds.

With rising tuition, massive student debt, an abysmal job market, and high youth unemployment, young people need to take a stand and make their issues the issues that cannot be overlooked by Parliament.

The democratic parliamentary system under which we are governed requires engagement and involvement by all who are eligible to take part in it. If we as Canadian citizens do not become aware and active in the very democratic process that has been fought for and established as a stanchion of Canadian society.

If the future of the Canada and its inhabitants is of any concern to you, or even if it is not, voice an opinion by voting and participating in the collective task of shaping our nation.

Andrew Meade

# Daylight saving time has saved lives

It was September 1999 on the West Bank. Terrorists had prepared an explosive device, sending it by express delivery to their cover associates in Israel. Their targets were two busloads of people.

The fault in their plan was the intended timing of detonation. The West Bank was under daylight saving time and Israel was under standard time, an overlooked detail for the terrorist's contact.

The timing of detonation was misunderstood, resulting in the deaths of four Israeli terrorists instead of the 60-targeted civilians.

Daylight saving time had actually saved people.

Benjamin Franklin first proposed the idea of daylight saving time in an essay entitled "An Economic Project," rhetoric on the use of natural versus artificial light.

In "An Economic Project," Franklin discussed the economy of lighting in the home after attending a demonstration of a new type of oil lamp.

His ideas stemmed from a discussion following the demonstration on the amount of oil usage versus the quantity of light produced. In Franklin's essay, he humorously refers himself, his love of thrift and his habits of staying up late, catching every last bit of natural light and not going to bed until the early morning.

The ideas presented in his paper would flourish and others would take his proposal, refine it and eventually the concepts of daylight saving time were conceived.

There are many positives to consider when we turn our clocks forward on March 8.

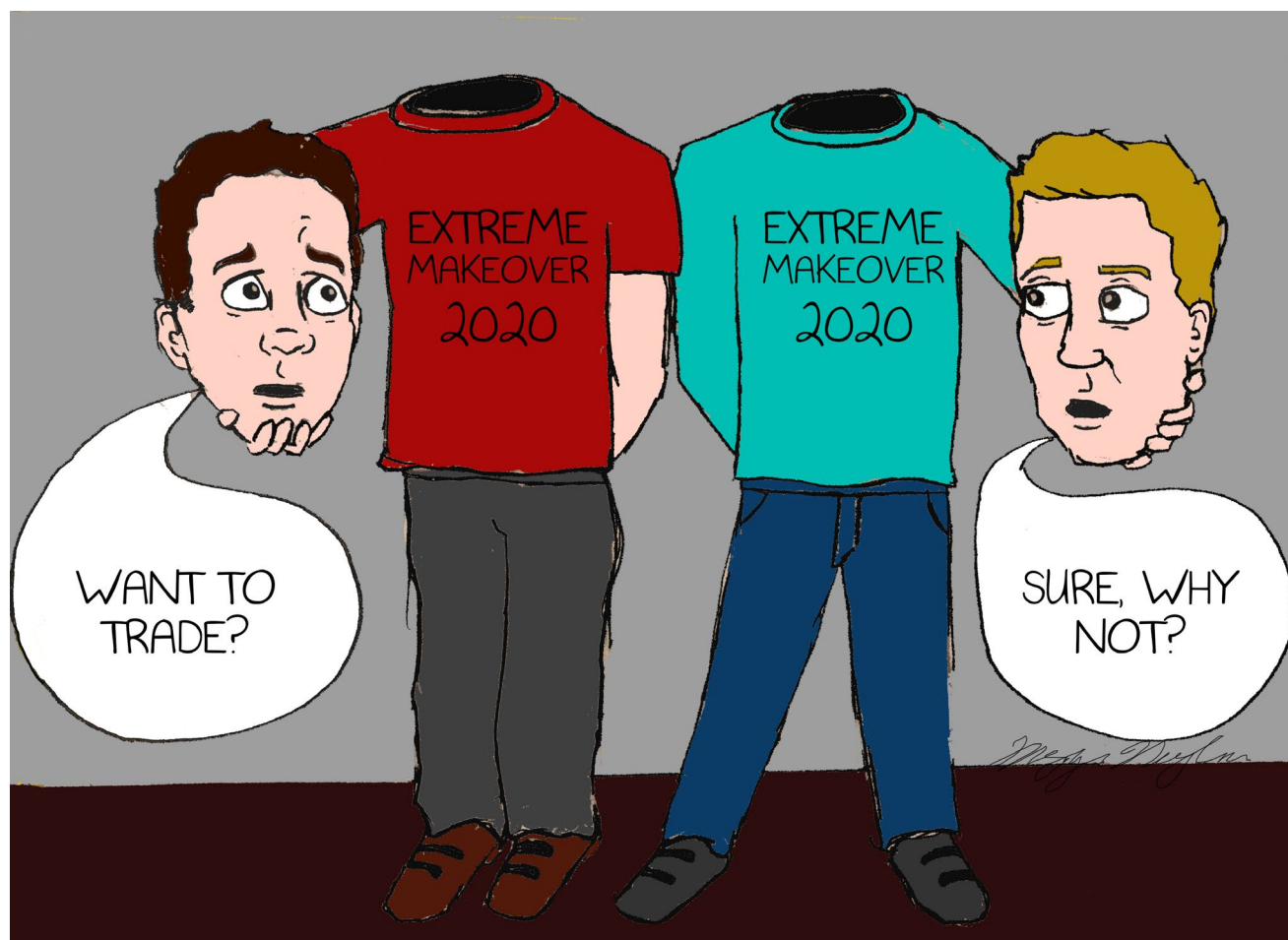
First and foremost the days will be longer and there will be more daylight in the evening and studies have shown that people are monumentally happier and healthier when they are exposed to adequate amounts of sunlight.

On an economic level, the hour forward switch of daylight saving time saves energy and greatly benefits the retail and services industries. More light in the evenings entices people to stay out longer, leaving lights and appliances in the home turned off. Also, people tend to spend more time shopping and enjoying extended leisure hours in the late afternoon light, bringing in more revenue for various businesses and boosting our economy. Last year, according to a study done by the Belfast Telegraph, Northern Ireland earned an extra £6.34 million a year in extra cash generated by the tourist industry alone from extended evening light.

Studies have shown the forward switch in daylight saving time also reduces the risk of traffic accidents, as the roads are naturally lit during the high-volume traffic hours of the day. A study conducted by the Transport Research Laboratory together with the University College of London found fewer people would be killed in road accidents if one hour of daylight were transferred from morning to evening.

So when we turn out clocks forward this Sunday, we should look past our own grumpy attitudes when we start our first few days with an hour of sleep missing and appreciate the longer hours of sun that are ahead of us.

Graeme Murphy



NEW REALITY TV SHOW

## Opinion

# Sex talk important part of child's education

## Ontario government's new material vital to curriculum

By Amanda Paulus

The new Ontario sex curriculum is a long-overdue change.

I think that the new sex education curriculum covers a lot of topics that one may not have thought to be important in a child's education.

Knowing the anatomical terms for their body parts can be extremely helpful in cases of possible abuse. I am also extremely pleased to see that the concept of "no means no" being taught in Grade 2 and reducing the stigma around mental illnesses

discussed in Grades 11 and 12 (although this could be discussed even earlier).

Some parents are horrified that their Grade 6 child will learn about masturbation, or that oral sex and how to avoid pregnancy are part of the Grade 7 and 8 discussion. A common view among critics is that by educating kids on these subjects will not protect them and will instead encourage more sexual activity.

Your perfect children will probably already have begun talking about these things with their peers, or embarked on their own mission of self-discovery. Sorry, but these things are human nature. They will happen one way or another, whether your child is "old enough" or not. Wouldn't you rather that they have some education so if they do happen to experiment sexually, they can do it safely?

People need to look at the obvious posi-

tives of the new curriculum.

Such things as consent, homosexuality and mental health are so important and have thus far been left out of sexual education. It is long past due that they have a place in the curriculum.

Sexting and cyber bullying were not a concern for the older generation but are now very relevant.

Those who haven't checked out the new curriculum should do so before voicing an opinion.

The new curriculum has the potential to raise our youth to respect each other's bodies and have a better understanding of their own. Society has unfortunately lacked this lately amongst the older generation. If your greatest concern is that your children will masturbate, take a look at the number of rape related and homophobic headlines and rethink your priorities.

# Outdoor people should share their passion rather than battling with each other

By Alyssa Lloyd

With all these winter blues, I can't help but reminisce on days spent on the open water. But my pleasant memories of this past fishing season are soon crowded with the recollection of issues I ran into.

Online banter against fellow outdoorsmen and women has been turning the clock against our sport. Instead of moving forward by educating one another and the public, we've given ourselves a petty reputation of a childish manner.

Malice and depreciation have no place in the outdoors community. We need to respect and defend one another, man and

woman alike, not tear one another down. There are too many pressures on our fisheries and hunting privileges to be turning against one another. All of the wasted time insulting one another for less than perfect fish holds, or the style we hunt, could have gone towards defending our places as conservationists in an ever urbanizing country.

Ornery comments that people post online doesn't help anyone. It isn't even self-serving. Before you type something out of spite, ask yourself, what are you and your passion gaining from those comments? Anonymity of computers has been an extenuating problem with our world today, everything from cyber bullying to

terrorism. We call ourselves outdoorsmen and women; we connect deeply with our natural side, not with our keyboards.

While I have been nothing but fortunate, meeting amazing people, men and women alike through this incredible sport we all love so dearly, I am sad to say, not everyone frees their mind so willfully.

The old ways of the outdoorsmen were not designed to discourage people, but rather teach others how to have the utmost respect for their surroundings and the people they share it with. We can turn social media into a tool to help us, and to shake the 'hick' reputations if we just stay positive to one another.

# The Pioneer

The Pioneer is currently produced by photojournalism students for Loyalist College and the surrounding area. In the spirit of the pioneers who settled our community and who were rooted in tradition, these pioneers always had an eye on the future. Our students strive to serve the public interest, seek the truth and uphold the highest standards of our profession.

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The Pioneer welcomes your letters and comments. Please send material to the editor at the address below before Wednesday. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content and length. All letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number. For advertising information, rates and placement, please contact Sandi Hibbard-Ramsay, at the college, 613-969-1913, ext. 2591; by cell at 613-848-5665; or at home, 613-965-6222. Pioneer newsroom, 1N9, Loyalist College, Box 4200, Belleville, ON K8N 5B9 · 613-969-1913, ext. 2828. E-mail: pioneer@loyalistic.on.ca



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