

## On the street

Sarah Vissers asked people at Loyalist College the following question:

**Do you think schools are tough enough on students who cheat?**



**Arshdeep Sidhu, second-year general arts and science,** "I think schools need to be tough. They gave us time to study, so if still you're cheating on an exam or test, that's not really good."



**Sandeep Kaur, first-year general arts and science,** "Yes. I think teachers give us enough time, and explain everything on their test, and then students may not be cheating on a test."



**Curtis Lazarus, third-year animation,** "Maybe a little tough, but there should be a good punishment just for people cheat on tests and stuff, not 'you're kicked out of college.'"



**Courtney Maillett, first-year welding,** "I think for the most part they are, yeah. I know for my course, we had that problem last semester and they were pretty good at handling it."



**John Waltz, first-year general arts and science,** "It's hard to say, because I think the expectations are so high, students feel the need to cheat because it's more about grades than about what we learn."



**Jessica d'Amboise, second-year chemical engineering,** "They could be a little bit stricter, because it does happen way too often, and very easily."

## Editorial

# Normalizing the culture of assault

In a world where women are encouraged to advance their careers, empower themselves and break free of past oppression, you would think that desire for equality would extend to campus life.

Unfortunately, this is not the case.

The University of Ottawa's men's varsity hockey team has been suspended after sexual assault allegations from an incident in February. Similarly, student union vice president Anne-Marie Roy was the subject of a demeaning Facebook conversation held by five students that came to light last week.

We live in a world where when someone tries to rise above and bring awareness to this issue, they are silenced. Roy has four of five of the men who had the conversation about her trying to press charges, stating the conversation was private.

Society is to blame for the normalization of rape culture. One of the first things people ask when they hear about a sexual assault case is "Well, what was she wearing?" Women get the blame; because the victim was drinking, or wearing a low-cut shirt, or high heels, it means she was asking for it.

Sexual assault, harassment and rape need to be talked about. We as a society need to recognize the serious issue we have at hand and address it.

Sweeping it under the rug and silencing women who are speaking out against attackers and abusers is not the solution. Treating it as a joke, as so often seen in pop culture, is not the solution.

The justification for rape culture is that it is engrained into student culture – the party life, comments made about women in locker rooms, frosh week and frat house chants – it's all harmless fun. The people participating in these chants and conversations want no harm to come to the people they are talking about.

That may be the case – but it is not harmless. According to the American Association of University Women, an estimated 25 per cent of women experience sexual assault while attending post-secondary – 20 per cent of which occurred on campus.

When you compare to the 4 per cent of women who experience sexual assault while in prison, it is pretty shocking.

Shouldn't those attending post-secondary feel safe and secure on campus? Just because one thing becomes the social or cultural norm does not mean it is correct. You only have to look at our past to see that.

Sexual harassment and assault are wrong, no matter the context.

Dayna Lefebvre

# Marijuana legalization would save government money

Imagine going to the store, buying a bag of marijuana, and then driving home to use the drug. This seems to be the future of the regulations on marijuana in Canada. In many cases the legalization of marijuana would benefit many aspects of Canada, from opening job opportunities to cutting of the lifeblood of gangs.

A study in 2007 by Health Canada reported that 8.2 percent of young Canadians used cannabis on a daily basis.

There is a huge amount of growing support for legalizing marijuana. In recent years the Liberal party of Canada has published a policy favouring legalizing marijuana. In past weeks Minister of Justice Peter MacKay said he is considering ticketing people for small amounts of marijuana rather than facing criminal charges. MacKay has been meeting with multiple police chiefs in British Columbia to talk.

Rather than decriminalizing the drug, it seems the government is really just thinking of ways to regulate the substance and make money off it while doing it.

Arrest for marijuana possession has risen by 41 percent since the Tories came to power in 2006. There have been more than 405,000 people arrested on pot-related charges since the Conservatives came to power.

A Maclean's article stated that in 2002 the senate pegged the annual cost of cannabis to law enforcement and the justice system at \$300 million to \$500 million.

The legalization would not only help save the government money from enforcing the drug but it is estimated that it will make \$4 billion each year in revenue, and thousands of new jobs.

Contrary to the belief that the black market will remain, the Liberal party estimates the price of marijuana will cost 30 to 35 percent less than the current black market because it is easier to produce and not as risky as the black market.

A commercial from marijuanadoctors.com depicts a man selling types of fish from his coat on the street.

"You wouldn't buy fish from this guy, so why buy marijuana from him?" says the dealer in the commercial.

Legalizing pot prices would set a new standard of drug quality. One that's healthier and regulated, letting the buyer know it's content.

But with the freedom of legal pot, there are repercussions that might follow. Steps would have to be made in prevention and education programs to educate the public about the health risks and consequences of the drug. And an increase in prevention in youth, put into the school system.

For centuries, the prohibition of marijuana has created an underground market for fueling profits for gangs trickling down to even kids who can easily get their hands on marijuana. But by legalizing marijuana, it would cut off the underground market while at the same time opening up new job opportunities and revenue for the Canadian economy.

Justin Greaves



## Opinion

# Service dogs a privilege, not a right

*Contract signed when someone agrees to foster a puppy*

By Samantha Hobbs

All college students start their mornings off in similar ways. They get up, get ready and rush out the door with everything they need for the day.

Now I start my day the same way but I have something extra in my morning routine. She's 70 pounds, black, furry and her name is Jazzy. Jazzy is my service dog guide. She is specially trained for me and accompanies me everywhere I go.

The people that train these dogs are a major part of what makes service dogs so good at their job. Another huge part is the dog's foster family, the people that they live with while they grow from puppy into dog. When the organization decides that the dog is old enough and is ready to be

trained the dog must be returned.

Although they get attached to the dog, the dog is going to make a person with a disability's life better.

One foster parent has made the news lately because she refused to return her foster puppy when it was recall by the organization.

In July 2011, Tammy Hall began to foster a golden retriever named Gabby. Gabby is from the National Service Dog Training Centre. In April 2012, Gabby was recalled to begin her training. At first Hall agreed to return the dog. Then she would not be returning Gabby due to health problems.

When a person agrees to foster a puppy that is going to be a service dog, they must sign a contract. The contract basically states that the persons will care for the dog and teach them basic skills. When the owner of the dog, in this case the National Service Dog Training Centre, decides the dog is ready for training they must return it.

Hall actually got a lawyer to try to adopt Gabby. The case has gone to court.

Chances are she is not going to win the case. She knew when she agreed to care for Gabby she would have to return her. Legally Gabby belongs to the National Service Dog Training Centre. As for Gabby's health problems, health problems do not mean she can't work. It just means it may limit the kind of work she is able to do.

Hall is not qualified to decide whether Gabby is not healthy enough to work, it should be determined by a professional.

By keeping the dog when she is able to work, Hall is preventing a disabled person from getting a service dog that may be life saving. I received Jazzy a year ago from the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide. I completed training and graduated from the school with Jazzy. Technically she is my dog, but she belongs to the foundation and if they feel the need they can take her back. When it's time for Jazzy to retire I will not automatically get to keep her. I will have apply to adopt her. Having Jazzy is a privilege and I am grateful for her and would never argue with the people who made having her possible.

# Fake IDs use real people's names and addresses

*Not a victimless crime as some people want to believe*

By Samantha Quinn

When people think fake IDs, they think harmlessly going to buy a fake driver's license with made-up information on it for a new identity. In reality, it hurts someone who notices they are missing their wallet.

Young teenagers going to Toronto and buying an ID to go to the bars always seems harmless; victimless, even in this generation pretty common. In reality that is not the case.

When you buy a fake ID with someone's name, and address, it has been proven that these addresses are people's actual home addresses, names, postal code and signature, living somewhere else in the country, or even province.

The differences are hard to spot, but the people who are using them sometimes are.

Businesses are hiding under the term 'souvenir shops.' They are knowingly giving fake IDs to 14-year-olds, giving them the opportunity to put themselves in overwhelming situations.

The differences are getting harder to spot every year as the technology of it all is advancing. Fake IDs all started with a laminated piece of paper and a cut-out photo taken in someone's basement. Now, bouncers can't tell the difference. It has become

a sophisticated crime that more and more people are getting away with.

After several bad calls, underage kids walk into a bar and are welcomed into things much before their time. It leads into more serious situations that they aren't ready for, such as sexual assault and sometimes even death.

According to a CBSA (Canadian Border Services Agency) report, under the Criminal Code, someone can only be found guilty of forgery if police can prove they intended their product to be used as a fake.

While underage teens party hard, somewhere else, someone suffers through the crime of identity theft. It can escalate if given the right materials such things as a credit card and social insurance numbers. Credit scores drop and money is lost.

# The Pioneer

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