



November 27, 2008

## Franco-Cite's season spikes with bronze medal

By NEATE SAGER

The Franco-Cite Faucons' bronze-medal showing at the OFSAA AA finals in Stratford capped a special volleyball season.

"We had the feeling it was going to be good year, but we didn't know it was going to be this good," graduating leftside hitter Mathieu Kuiack said. "We were able to finish out on top, we gave it our all."

The Faucons, led on the floor by captain Philippe Yeldon, Kuiack and setter Vincent Trottier, who shifted from a front-row spot to help the team, won the Franco-Ontarian championship and also beat quad-A power Glebe this season.

An "epic comeback" in the bronze game, a 17-25 27-25, 15-10 verdict over the North Bay Widdifield Wildcats, was a perfect topper.

"It was 23-19 in the second set and we were two points away from being eliminated," said coach Rejean Godmaire, who coached this season with Martin Nadeau. "I called what you could say was the biggest timeout I've ever taken. We had identified a weakness in their defence that we needed to go after and we just needed to rally the troops.

"We ended taking eight of the next 10 points to win the set."

The 6-foot-3 Yeldon added that his team was eager to prove something to itself, and to the team it faced in its final game.

"We always had that goal in our minds of an OFSAA medal, to beat one of our rival teams was even better," he said. "We saw them (Widdifield) at a lot of tournaments and never faced them, but we were anxious to play them.

"It was just one of those things where there was always a grudge between our teams."

Beatrice-Desloges' silver and Franco-Cite's bronze is the latest indicator of French schools rise in volleyball. Franco-Cite won the AA senior girls' banner, which has raised talk that up to four teams could go to OFSAA this season.

### SHARP EXCALIBUR

Ottawa's Daniel Pasian, Deep River's Tara Madigan and Hannah Koslowsky and Lanark's Scott Robertson were recognized by Trent University this week for being CIS academic all-Canadians.

Pasian, a business student, plays rugby for the Excalibur. Madigan and Koslowsky are members of the women's soccer team and Robertson is a rower for the Peterborough school.

### ON CAMPUS

Julien Edwards (De La Salle), a defender for Drake (Iowa) University, has been named an all-Missouri Valley Conference defender. Edwards' Bulldogs suffered a heartbreaking NCAA Tournament loss last Friday, losing 1-0 to Saint Louis on a goal in the 120th minute ... Pembroke's Becky Conroy, a forward for Queen's, is leading the OUA women's hockey league in scoring with 18 points (nine goals and nine assists) ... former 67's Brett Liscomb, with the overtime winner, and G Danny Battochio (23 saves), were huge in St. Francis Xavier's 3-2 upset of then-No. 2 Moncton last Saturday.



November 27, 2008

## Bulldogs rally around coach

### French school wins OFSAA silver six months after mentor to players killed in car crash

By NEATE SAGER

Glory is in what you give.

The OFSAA silver medals the Beatrice-Desloges Bulldogs proudly wore last Saturday night after the AAA boys volleyball championship game in Kingston might end up in a drawer someday.

One hopes the "lifetime experience," in setter Hugo Curley's words, that they got in realizing their goal to win an OFSAA medal in memory of coach Chantal Lefebvre's late husband, Marcel Boudreau, will not be stashed away.

"There's a lot of love in the room, you could certainly say that about our team," power hitter Andre Begin says.

"Before every set, we would tell each other, 'We're all friends here, we can tell each other anything, we've been through so much together, let's go hard after every ball and leave it all on the floor,'" Begin adds. "Let's pretend that this is the last game we'll ever play together."

The "beautiful thing," to borrow principal Julie Matte's description of Beatrice-Desloges' season, is one can see it as just about sports.

It seems wrong to trade in strangers' sorrow. It was always around the Bulldogs, but it never immobilized them, the way it could with people a lot older than 16 and 17 years old.

"Every time things were going wrong, we would think about Marcel and try to come together as a team," 6-foot-7 middle hitter Jeremy Lortie says of Boudreau. A mentor figure to many of the players, he was 42 when he died in a car crash in May.

Lefebvre says this should be about the boys, so perhaps it is best to relate how the Bulldogs achieved the best OFSAA result for a French school at the AAA level. They put in a 13-hour day last Saturday just to get to the final, a four-set loss to Upper Canada College.

They were up at 6 a.m. to get ready for their final round-robin game. At OFSAA, the schedule is set up so the top seeds get extra rest for the playoffs, and their up-and-down season had led to them being seeded No. 6. In the quarter-final, they beat the defending champs, London Oakridge. They silenced a packed gym by beating the host Regi Panthers in a semi-final that went three sets.

One can only assume they were on their 19th wind by the time the final started at 7 p.m.

Their coach is surely right to make it about the whole team, from the big three through high-leaping Prenel Cave, seniors Cody Dunn and Pat Samson, and contributors such as Marc Begin, Simon Laplante and Alex Marcotte.

"These guys are so strong," Lefebvre says. "They've been there for me, all along, for the entire season. They come over to my house and help me out with chores. It's a real family, and these guys will be in my heart for the rest of my life."

How many teachers would you have helped with chores, in any circumstances? For the Bulldogs, it was automatic.

"We went to help around the house, with the flower beds and stuff, before the season started," Lortie says

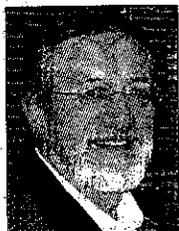
off-handedly. "The whole team came together."

After all, a coach and a volleyball family needed help. Pitching in only seemed right, like saying this silver medal team is champions.

# 1968-2008: évolution spectaculaire du droit à la gestion scolaire

GÉRARD LÉVESQUE

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Pour gérer ses écoles élémentaires et secondaires, la communauté franco-ontarienne dispose de douze conseils scolaires de langue française: huit conseils catholiques (voir le site de l'Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques: [www.afocsc.org](http://www.afocsc.org)) et quatre conseils publics (voir le site de l'Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario: [www.acepo.org](http://www.acepo.org)). Ce droit à la gestion de nos établissements d'enseignement n'a pas été acquis du jour au lendemain.

En 1968, lorsqu'il est question de reconnaître dans les lois de notre province les écoles élémentaires et secondaires de langue française, on se demande qui devrait gérer ces institutions. Il y avait bien à ce moment-là des francophones qui, selon les régions de notre province, étaient conseillers scolaires mais ceux-ci n'étaient pas élus sur une base linguistique: ils représentaient des contribuables catholiques ou pu-

blics. Les législateurs décident alors de donner aux francophones voix au chapitre par l'entremise de comités consultatifs de langue française, rattachés aux conseils publics.

Les comités consultatifs ont eu une certaine utilité mais on s'est vite rendu compte de leurs limites: la présidence du comité consultatif prenait la parole lors de l'assemblée mensuelle du conseil scolaire mais c'était la majorité des conseillers scolaires, habituellement unilingues anglais, qui décidaient de la réponse à donner aux besoins éducatifs des francophones. Dans la région de Toronto, des gens comme Armand Charlebois, Gary Shortliffe et Jean-Jacques Blais (lequel deviendra plus tard ministre dans le cabinet Trudeau) ont été membres de ces comités.

Malgré un grand nombre de modifications aux lois scolaires et la création d'une Commission des langues d'enseignement, les conflits scolaires et les recours aux tribunaux se sont multipliés dans la plupart des régions de la province. Quelque temps, au siècle dernier, j'ai été membre de cette Commission (1986-1994). La Commission traitait des questions qui lui étaient soumises par le ministre de l'Éducation ou par des groupes de défense des droits des francophones relativement à l'éducation des groupes linguistiques minoritaires. Le rôle de la Commission consistait à trouver des solutions aux problèmes relatifs à la langue dont l'enseigne-

ment est dispensé aux minorités d'expression française ou anglaise (ce n'est pas une erreur car, en Ontario il y a des endroits où les anglophones sont en minorité) et à rédiger des rapports et des recommandations s'adressant au ministre et concernant les questions litigieuses.

De par la loi, le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil nommait cinq membres: au moins deux d'entre eux devaient être francophones et deux autres, anglophones. J'écris ces lignes à l'imparfait mais je pourrais aussi les écrire au présent car l'existence de la Commission est encore prévue dans la législation de notre province. Si ces cinq postes sont présentement vacants, c'est sans doute parce que l'obtention de la gestion scolaire par la communauté francophone a changé le genre de défis qui se posent aujourd'hui à ceux qui veulent offrir à la jeunesse franco-ontarienne une éducation de qualité similaire à celle offerte aux anglophones.

Louvrage *D'un obstacle à l'autre: vers le Conseil scolaire de langue française*, publié par Odile Gérin en 1998 aux Éditions L'Interligne, a présenté les principaux événements qui ont marqué la lutte pour le Conseil scolaire de langue française d'Ottawa-Carleton. L'auteure devrait être encouragée à faire une mise à jour et une réédition de son volume afin que soit davantage connu le chemin parcouru au cours des quarante dernières années.

L'Express Toronto 24-11-2008

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## Arrêté après s'être présenté dans une école armé d'un couteau



**Bryan Michaud**  
Le Droit

Un homme de 20 ans de Casselman a été arrêté par les policiers à la suite d'une présumée agression armée qui serait survenue à l'école secondaire de Russell, dans l'Est ontarien.

Selon la Police provinciale de l'Ontario (PPO), Koal Aspeck se serait présenté dans l'institution scolaire armé d'un couteau. L'individu aurait commencé une conversation avec une étudiante qu'il connaissait, ce qui a résulté en une altercation verbale.

« Un témoin a confronté le suspect et lui a demandé de quitter l'école, ce qui a été fait », raconte la porte-parole de la PPO du comté de Russell, Carole Pirnat.

Il n'a pas été possible de savoir si un membre de la direction a assisté à la dispute. La jeune étudiante n'a pas été blessée lors de l'incident.

Suspect relâché

M. Aspeck a été relâché sous promesse de comparaître en cour à l'Original, le 17 décembre prochain. L'individu fait face à une accusation d'agression armée.

Le personnel des communications du Upper Canada District School Board ne semblait pas informé de la nouvelle.

Invité à commenter, l'employé s'est contenté de dire que Ted Kennedy, un surintendant du Conseil scolaire, allait rappeler LeDroit, ce qui n'a pas été fait.

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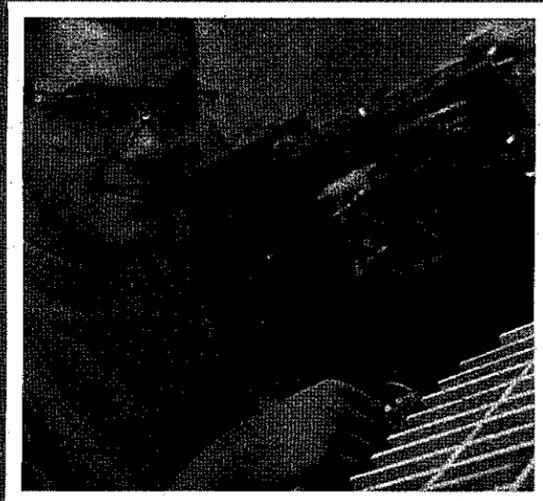
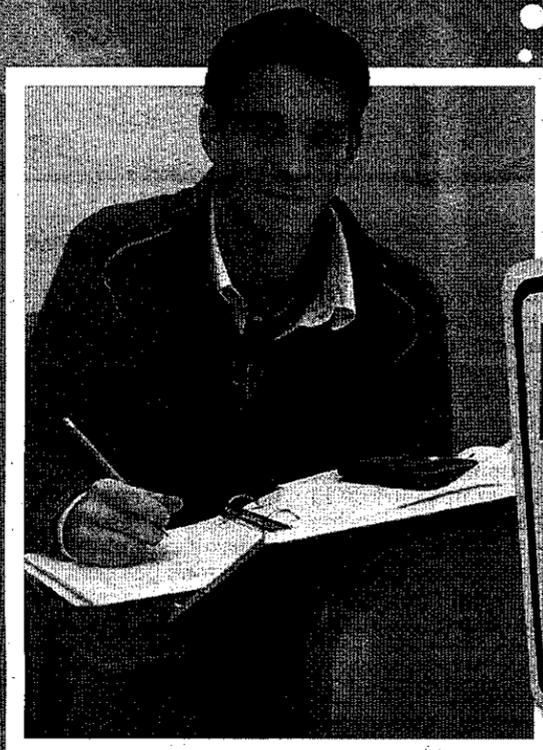
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Cette page d'information vous est offerte grâce à un partenariat entre le Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien et le quotidien LeDroit.

## Cin-ergie!, chronique cinéma

### Babine, un film qui a de la gueule!



par **Gisèle Nantais**

[Voir tous les articles de Gisèle Nantais](#)

Article mis en ligne le 26 novembre 2008 à 12:07

[Soyez le premier à commenter cet article](#)

**Dans les légendes québécoises, on retrouve souvent le personnage du «fou du village», un pauvre idiot dont on se moquait et qu'on maltraitait parfois en gueulant.** Le film *Babine*, réalisé par Luc Picard, provient des contes de Fred Pellerin qu'il a présentés dans des livres, des disques et des spectacles. C'est un merveilleux film d'époque rempli de naïveté et de sincérité, de moments cocasses, de scènes émouvantes, de dialogues humoristiques pleins de jeux de mots et, enfin, de magie!



Photo : Gracieuseté de Alliance Vivafilms

Le film se déroule à Saint-Elie de Caxton, le village fabuleux des temps anciens sorti de l'imagination de Fred Pellerin. Ça commence avec la naissance de Babine, fils de La Sorcière, incarnée par Isabel Richer (*L'incomparable Mademoiselle C*). Déjà, le pauvre Babine n'a pas grand chance : simple d'esprit et une mère comme elle! Cependant, les villageois, tout en se méfiant, vont l'adopter – surtout le Vieux Curé interprété par Julien Poulin. Luc Picard interprète le rôle de Toussaint Brodeur, marchand général et éleveur de mouches (à pêche!), qui prend Babine sous son aile et le guide dans sa quête existentielle. L'une des scènes les plus comiques du film est lorsqu'il lui enseigne à répondre «Vous pareillement!», quels que soient les propos des gens qu'ils visitent lorsqu'ils font la guignolée ensemble.

Vincent-Guillaume Otis interprète avec candeur et simplicité le rôle difficile de Babine, et réussit à émouvoir le public par un regard, une moue, quelques mots, sans exagération ni gestuelle excessive ; on est touché par sa détresse face aux préjugés des gens.

Une brochette impressionnante d'acteurs et d'actrices jouent dans ce film fort sympathique!

Alexis Martin incarne Le Curé Neuf qui soupçonne et accuse Babine de tous les méfaits possibles ; Marie Brassard est la femme qui est enceinte depuis 20 ans! Marie-Chantal Perron incarne Jeannette Brodeur, la femme de Toussaint; Gildor Roy joue le Forgeron Riopel et Maude Laurendeau, sa fille, La belle Lurette qui effeuille des milliers de marguerites pour l'amour de son soldat, parti en guerre il y

belle lurette!

La réalisation de Luc Picard est parsemée d'effets spéciaux bien dosés qui transmettent les éléments féériques du conte et les décors du village et des contrées environnantes nous transportent dans l'univers mythique de Fred Pellerin. C'est un film qui plaira à tous ceux qui restent jeunes de cœur et qui nous met dans l'ambiance du temps des Fêtes qui approche. Avec la crise économique qui sévit, ça nous rappelle qu'il faut revenir à des valeurs simples, les joies partagées de l'amour et de l'amitié.

## Carleton students reconsider dropping Shinerama

### Emergency meeting called to review fundraiser vote

**Katie Daubs**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, November 27, 2008*

A fundraiser to help fight cystic fibrosis will be back on Carleton University's frosh-week schedule Monday if the president of the undergraduate student union gets her way.

Carleton University Students' Association president Brittany Smyth said an emergency meeting of the association's council is planned for Monday evening and she'll be trying to rescind a decision to pull association support for the annual "Shinerama" fundraiser.

She said she was "very sorry for the confusion" caused by the council motion to stop supporting a cystic-fibrosis charity -- and especially its preamble, which stated that cystic fibrosis "has been recently revealed to only affect white people, and primarily men." According to the original motion, the charity would be dropped to allow for other fundraising efforts that served "diverse communities."



CREDIT:

The Carleton student government is reconsidering its decision to stop fundraising for cystic fibrosis.

Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease that affects the lungs and digestive tract; typically those born with it live only into their 30s. According to the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, about one in every 3,600 children is born with the disease in Canada, and girls and boys are equally affected. "Caucasians" have a greater chance of carrying the abnormal gene that causes the disease, but that demographic group includes people in the Middle East, South America, North Africa and the Indian subcontinent, as well as western countries.

The motion to change the frosh week charity passed the CUSA council almost unanimously earlier this week, but a national outcry that followed caused the student association to backtrack yesterday.

And just as Ms. Smyth announced plans to reconsider, Carleton's president Roseann Runte weighed in on the first major controversy to affect the school during her tenure.

In a letter to students, she expressed "regret" over the initial motion and hoped that the student council would take the "appropriate course of action."

"This is a program to which Carleton students have contributed nearly a million dollars over the years. It has been very successful and I myself enjoyed volunteering with the students at the South Keys Mall this fall," she wrote.

Nadine Imbleau-Redmond, the Eastern Ontario regional director for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, called the news of an emergency CUSA vote "wonderful."

"We're overjoyed here at the foundation," she said. "We're just happy that the group heard the outcry of the students and population, and felt committed to the cause. They're doing the right thing," she said.

Ms. Imbleau-Redmond said the flap shouldn't strain relations between the university and the charity.

"The vote was based on incorrect information, and now that they've been informed about the correct information and the legacy, they're realizing what it's all about," she said.

Donnie Northrup, the Carleton University student who wrote the controversial preamble to give Shinerama the boot, said he was sorry he misused the term "caucasian," but stood by the intent of the motion yesterday.

"I think it's good to have people willing to take a stand in student politics, and I've admitted I've made a mistake. But I do believe in spreading the wealth, so to speak, as charities go," he said, adding that other charities stood to benefit from the decision.

Mr. Northrup said "not a lot of thought" went into the wording of the preamble.

"I'm among term papers and assignments. It was a slip-up. I should have researched it further," said the fourth-year integrated science student, adding that writing is not something he's focusing his degree on.

In her letter to students, Ms. Runte noted the controversial language.

"I know that Carleton students are fine young scholars who wish to be responsible and considerate. I am sure that they did not intend to offend by the preamble to their motion, but I am also sure that they now understand the effects of that language," she wrote.

Mr. Northrup said the sentiments were better expressed at the original meeting than in his misinformed preamble.

"Students do come from a variety of backgrounds, and do have different interests, like global poverty. All of the media focus has been on the exact wording," he said.

Mr. Northrup said the backlash has been "fairly unkind." He said he's received hate e-mail and nasty Facebook messages, and isn't able to have a normal life.

At the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Ms. Imbleau-Redmond said the controversy has been great for public awareness of the illness.

Shinerama started in 1964 as a shoe-shining campaign to raise money for cystic fibrosis during first-year welcoming festivities at universities and colleges in Canada. According to the foundation's website, \$18.5 million has been raised, and half of all Canadians who now have the disease are expected to live into their late 30s and beyond. Initially, few lived beyond childhood.

Today, a rally is planned at noon at Carleton's Mackenzie Field, between the school's University Centre and Mackenzie building. Nick Bergamini, a third-year journalism student who voted against the initial motion, said Shinerama supporters and

members of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will be there to pass out leaflets.

"Let's move on and be positive," he said. "We're a Shinerama school."

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## Universities, colleges see students with disabilities as a growth market

Changes are making higher education possible for those who would have been shut out only a few years ago, writes Joanne Laucius.

**Joanne Laucius**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, November 27, 2008*

A couple of decades ago, Will Parkinson would not have been a candidate for a university education.

Although he had no problem with reading, his spelling and grammar were poor and he struggled to put his thoughts on paper. By the time he left high school, he was doing well in math and science, but his writing was at a Grade 8 or 9 level.

Students like Mr. Parkinson are one of the fast-growing segments of the university and college demographic.

Two decades ago, about 90 per cent of Carleton University's 200 or 300 disabled students had visible disabilities such as mobility problems. The number of disabled students has grown to about 1,300, but now more than half have invisible problems, like learning disabilities.

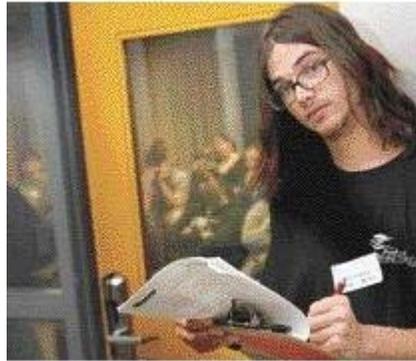
The numbers are growing for a several reasons. Legislation, including the Humans Rights Code and the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, require post-secondary institutions to make accommodations for disabled students, and the province provides the funding.

At the same time, growing numbers of parents are refusing to allow their children to drift into low-paying jobs. They're willing to spend, or find a way to fund, the \$1,800 it takes for a psychological assessment to figure it out.

Technology, like the computer that helps Mr. Parkinson write essays and exams, or simple accommodations, like lighter course loads, are making higher education possible for people who would have been shut out only a few years ago.

Meanwhile, universities and colleges, which face stagnating or declining enrolment as the baby boom echo clears the school system, are looking to learning-disabled students as a growth market.

With a disabled population of about 5.5 per cent -- the provincial average for post-secondary schools is about 3.9 per cent -- Carleton University has one of the highest



CREDIT: Chris Mikula, The Ottawa Citizen

Will Parkinson, a fourth-year geography and geomatics student at Carleton University, uses a computer that helps him write essays and exams.

proportions of disabled students in the province. Still, that doesn't reflect the entire potential market when one in 10 people in Canada has a disability.

"We're not even up to the national average. There's still room to grow, and that's a good thing. We're competing for students," said Larry McCloskey, director of Carleton's Paul Menton Centre, which helps find supports for students with disabilities.

Disabled students must meet the same admission standards as other students. "They're good students," he said.

Every year, between 50 and 100 students arrive at Carleton with suspected learning disabilities that have not yet been confirmed, said Dr. Nancy McIntyre, co-ordinator of the university's learning disabilities program.

Yesterday, 150 high school students with disabilities and 50 educators gathered at Carleton to hear about post-secondary options. The program will be repeated in May at Algonquin College.

Brianna Knowles, 17, a Grade 12 student at Lisgar Collegiate, has dyslexia and problems with reading, writing, comprehension and short-term memory. In high school, teachers sometimes manoeuvre around her difficulties by reading her questions and allowing her to answer orally.

Ms. Knowles plans to be a marine biologist and has investigated several universities. Some have already offered to provide her with a note-taker and a tutor. She's determined to go.

"I've always worked really hard," she said. "There's no reason for me to change that."

A long-term study of almost 100 students with disabilities who have graduated from Ontario universities and colleges has produced some good news, said Mr. McCloskey.

The study, now in its fifth year, found that only about half of the disabled graduates had disclosed their disabilities to employers, 93 per cent reported having good relationships with co-workers, and about three-quarters said they were satisfied with their jobs.

However, they also reported lower salaries. The median salary for university graduates two years after graduation is about \$39,000. For disabled students, it was about \$31,200.

Now 22, Mr. Parkinson is in his fourth year of geography and geomatics and is considering a master's degree. Access to a computer has made higher education possible.

"It's hard to imagine what might have been," he said.

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Thursday » November  
27 » 2008

## Carleton student wins Rhodes Scholarship

### Environmental activist 'thrilled' by chance to study at Oxford

**Brendan Kennedy**

The Ottawa Citizen

*Thursday, November 27, 2008*

Carleton University's newest Rhodes Scholar knows how to make the most of her days.

"I love everything that I have going on, but I'm pretty good

at sleeping," joked 21-year-old Alysia Garmulewicz by phone from her home in New Denver, B.C., about 100 kilometres north of Nelson in the West Kootenay region.

She won the 2009 Rhodes Scholarship for British Columbia based on her academic and athletic achievements and dedicated work on climate change and sustainability.

"I'm just so thrilled," she said. "It's quite something and it's just starting to sink in."

For several years, Ms. Garmulewicz has been an ardent environmental activist and researcher.

In 2006, she won the Canadian environment award sponsored by Canadian Geographic magazine and was one of 10 Canadian students to receive Environment Canada's Cambio Merit scholarship at the Montreal Conference on Climate Change in 2005. She is also organizing the World Changing Careers symposium in July 2009, and was a finalist on CBC's Canada's Next Great Prime Minister show in 2007.

One of Ms. Garmulewicz's references came from former prime minister Brian Mulroney, who saw her talent and enthusiasm up close as a panellist on the show. In his letter, Mr. Mulroney wrote that Ms. Garmulewicz "is outstanding in every respect and is likely to make a huge contribution to Canada."

Ms. Garmulewicz is also a Nordic skier and was an Ontario all-star in 2007 as a member of Carleton's bronze medal-winning ski team. But she said she made a conscious decision to scale back her athletic commitments this year to concentrate more on her work with climate change "because it's really where my heart is."

Ms. Garmulewicz will attend Oxford University next fall to pursue a masters of philosophy in geography and the environment, focusing on environmental policy.

"The program itself is quite cutting-edge and I'm really excited about that," she said, adding that the interdisciplinary approach of the program is very similar to her current program at Carleton, which is in Directed Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus on climate change and sustainability.

Asked what she wants to be when she grows up, Ms. Garmulewicz said she feels strongly about the capacity of government institutions to be leaders in climate change and sustainability.

"I'd like to be an active part in designing our government to be a better leader in that regard and not just be a reactive force," she said. "I'm really just interested in how I can best be part of that change."

Ms. Garmulewicz is Carleton's fifth Rhodes Scholar since 1961. The scholarships that pay for students from around the world to study at Oxford are funded by the fortune of Cecil John Rhodes, the founder of the De Beers diamond company.

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November 27, 2008

## Food agency to review Listeria outbreak

By CHRISTINA SPENCER, NATIONAL BUREAU

Opting not to wait for the prime minister's investigation of the deadly Listeria outbreak, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has asked four outside experts to review its approach to food safety.

The four, who meet for the first time next month, will look not just at Listeria, but at food-borne hazards generally, said Dr. Brian Evans, CFIA's executive vice-president.

### 20 PEOPLE DIED

The agency, whose role is to safeguard Canada's food supply, was relatively low-profile during the summer's Listeria crisis in which at least 20 people died.

But the independent experts will be "free to speak as they will or wish to in terms of what they're recommending," Evans said.

Their mandate includes reviewing proposed changes to management of Listeria; boosting openness and public education on general food safety; comparing Canada to other countries; and examining the role of different agencies.

Carlton Gyles, editor of the Canadian Veterinary Journal and a member of the expert panel, warned food safety is "a very difficult problem."

### 'ENORMOUS' OPPORTUNITY

"With our present methods, where food products are gathered from the far corners of the Earth and brought together in large central facilities, processed and redistributed, the opportunities for large outbreaks are enormous," Gyles said.

Panel member Rick Holley, a food microbiology professor at the University of Manitoba, said he thought one reason the panel was set up was to avoid "having folks at different levels in the chain of command offer opinions that may or may not be politically motivated."

"To avoid, I guess, in-house passive censorship," he said.

In early September, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced an independent investigation of the Listeria outbreak.

But CFIA's expert panel will have a broader mandate, Evans explained.

"This will not be a one-off," he said.