

20 décembre 2011 | Le Droit | FRANÇOISFRANÇOISPIERREPIERRE DUFAULT

# Près de 26 familles d'ottawa auront un logement abordable

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C'est Noël quelques jours à l'avance pour 26 familles à faible revenu d'ottawa.



SIMON SÉGUIN-BERTRAND, Ledroit

**Les conseillers Steve Desroches, Peter Clark et Peter Hume, ainsi que le maire Jim Watson, ont donné le coup d'envoi à la construction du projet.**

Hier, la Société de logement communautaire d'Ottawa (SLCO) a donné le coup d'envoi à la construction d'un projet domiciliaire qui permettra à ces familles dans l'attente d'un logement subventionné de poser leurs valises, chemin Carson, dans l'est de la ville.

Le projet de trois maisons en rangée prendra forme directement à côté du collège catholique Samuel-genest et à quelques pas de La Cité collégiale. Son ouverture est prévue à la fin de l'été 2012.

Pour la Ville d'Ottawa et la SLCO, il s'agit de bonnes nouvelles attendues depuis longtemps. « La triste réalité est que des milliers de personnes à Ottawa n'ont tout simplement pas de toit au-dessus de leur tête », rappelle le conseiller Mark Taylor, qui préside le comité municipal des services communautaires et de protection.

« Notre liste d'attente pour un logement abordable est d'environ 10 000 noms. Le manque est très important, en particulier pour les familles. Ce projet comprendra des unités de trois ou quatre chambres à coucher, qui répondront spécifiquement aux besoins des familles », affirme Jo-anne Poirier, la présidente et directrice générale de la SLCO.

Le projet de 6 millions \$ sera financé au tiers par la SLCO et aux deux tiers par la Ville d'Ottawa, à partir d'une enveloppe annuelle de 14 millions \$ créée par le maire Jim Watson pour faire la lutte à la pauvreté et à l'itinérance.

« Ces investissements commencent à porter leurs fruits. Voilà 26 familles sans domicile qui, d'ici quelques mois, auront enfin un endroit où se loger », dit-il.

Premier pas prometteur

Le conseiller Steve Desroches, qui préside le conseil d'administration de la SLCO, croit que le projet du chemin Carson est un premier pas prometteur vers l'élimination de la liste d'attente pour un logement abordable dans la capitale. Son collègue Peter Clark est du même avis. « Chaque petit pas est important. Nous avons beaucoup de rattrapage à faire », dit l'élu du quartier Rideau-rockcliffe, où seront construites les nouvelles unités.

Le temps d'attente moyen pour un logement subventionné à Ottawa est de cinq à huit ans.

La SLCO souhaite, à l'avenir, travailler davantage avec le secteur privé pour construire de nouvelles unités de logement abordable ou retaper des unités déjà existantes. L'agence parapublique possède environ 15 000 des 22 000 unités logement subventionné sur le territoire de la Ville d'Ottawa. Les autres sont gérées par des organismes communautaires.

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## [Franco Cite Faucons celebrate two high school hockey championships](#)

December 19, 2011. 1:07 pm • Section: [Sports](#)



Posted by:  
[Martin Cleary](#)

### **MARTIN CLEARY**

When a team qualifies for a high school sports championship, that's quite an achievement.

But when the same high school makes the grade to compete for two championships in the same sport in the same season, that's something really to get excited about.

Last week, Franco Cité fell into both of these categories. Not only did they qualify for the girls' Tier 2 and boys' Tier 2 non-contact hockey championships, but also they celebrated a championship in each one.

The Faucons rallied to win the best-of-three girls' Tier 2 title by capturing the third and decisive match 6-2 over Earl of March Lions on the road.

If the Lions had won, they would have gone from one extreme to the other. In 2010, they missed the playoffs by going 0-10. After winning the opening game of the 2011 championship series 7-6 in an overtime shootout, the Lions missed being the champions by one win. Franco Cité won the second game 10-5.

Maude Laramée and Rebecca Leslie, the two sparkplugs for the Faucons, scored two goals each in the final game against the Lions. Single goals went to Emily Wilson and Logan Merett. Goaltender Michelle Ibrahim was impressive in goal.

"We won because we really wanted it. The 12th graders wanted to leave high school with a great souvenir," wrote Franco Cité girls' Tier 2 coach Jean-François Maheu in an email.

The victory was especially sweet for the Faucons, after placing second in the 2010 final.

“We fought all season long to make sure we would win this year,” he added. “It is our first title and won’t be the last.”

A strong defence and just enough offence gave Franco-Cité the boys’ Tier 2 non-contact hockey title. After winning the first game of the best-of-three final 4-1, the Faucons edged the Canterbury Chargers 2-1 in the second game.

Canterbury, which received its goal from Eric Burpee, played exceptionally well as a team. Daniel Brunet was outstanding in goal, and Josh Small played an excellent two-way game.

“It was a really, really good, clean hockey game \_ so credit goes to both teams,” Canterbury assistant coach Graeme Parke wrote in an email. “Franco-Cité played exceptionally well in both games. They’re a strong, fast, well-coached team that executed well. Congratulations to them.

Canterbury entered the championship series with a record of nine wins, no losses and two ties.

# Une façon originale de contrer l'intimidation à l'école

Mise à jour le jeudi 1 décembre 2011 à 7 h 32 HNE



[faq](#)

Le reportage de Guylaine Bussière

L'école secondaire La Seigneurie, dans l'arrondissement de Beauport, a trouvé une façon originale de contrer l'intimidation en mettant sur pied le comité Taxi.

Ce dernier réunit des jeunes de l'école qui deviennent des sentinelles et observent les situations problématiques. Les élèves le font savoir ensuite à un professeur ou à la direction de l'établissement.

« Dans le fond, ce qui est le *fun* avec le comité Taxi, c'est que les cas se règlent rapidement. Ce n'est pas des cas qui s'étirent », explique Laudy-Anne Bélanger-Bolduc, qui fait partie du comité Taxi.

Les jeunes observent les situations même en dehors de l'école. Alexandra Gélinas, qui fait partie du comité Taxi, peut en témoigner. « J'étais sur Facebook et là, j'ai vu un commentaire qui visait une personne. Il s'était passé quelque chose à la Seigneurie et ça visait la personne et vraiment beaucoup là, je veux dire, c'était grave là, c'était vraiment blessant », raconte-t-elle.

Alexandra Gélinas a alors signalé la situation à un professeur et la situation s'est réglée.

Les jeunes qui font partie du comité Taxi ont été choisis par leurs pairs et ils ont été formés. Certains voulaient absolument participer à ce projet. C'est le cas de Marie-Louise Dionne.



Marie-Louise Dionne tenait à faire partie du comité Taxi

20 décembre 2011 | Le Droit | PATRICKPATRICKDUQUETTE DUQUETTE

# Au tour des transporteurs écoliers de dénoncer l'intimidation

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Les transporteurs écoliers de l'outaouais et d'ailleurs au Québec lancent une campagne contre l'intimidation dans les autobus scolaires.

L'association des transporteurs écoliers du Québec (ATEQ) mettra bientôt en vente, au coût de 2 \$, des bracelets jaunes avec l'inscription « Non à l'intimidation ».

La mort récente de Marjorie Raymond, une jeune Gaspésienne de 15 ans qui s'est suicidée après avoir dénoncé l'intimidation dont elle était victime, a poussé L'ATEQ à agir sans attendre.

Chaque année, L'ATEQ distribue 37 000 documents aux enfants d'âge primaire et préscolaire du Québec pour les sensibiliser à la sécurité dans les autobus scolaires. Certains des documents abordent spécifiquement les notions de respect et d'intimidation.

La prochaine campagne d'information, qui doit se tenir entre le 30 janvier et le 10 février, arrivait trop tard aux yeux des dirigeants de L'ATEQ. « Quand l'événement de Marjorie est survenu, les transporteurs ont voulu porter une action sans attendre », dit Sylvie Robitaille, conseillère en communications pour L'ATEQ.

Les bracelets seront bientôt disponibles chez les principaux transporteurs scolaires membres de L'ATEQ en Outaouais. L'argent recueilli ira à la Fondation de L'ATEQ, un organisme de charité qui a pour mission de venir en aide aux enfants défavorisés en milieu scolaire.

Un problème bien réel

Tout comme le personnel des écoles, les chauffeurs d'autobus sont confrontés au phénomène de l'intimidation.

La campagne d'information de L'ATEQ incite les jeunes victimes d'intimidation à réclamer de l'aide. « On demande aux jeunes qui se sentent intimidés, ou qui ont des problèmes, d'en parler à leur conducteur, au directeur d'école, à leur enseignante ou à un ami. Il faut le dénoncer. C'est un peu ça le message. À partir du moment où on demande de l'aide, quelqu'un, quelque part, va finir par intervenir. »

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# **Intimidation à l'école - Québec doit agir sur les réseaux sociaux**

## **Le PQ propose de faire fermer les comptes Facebook des agresseurs**

Mélissa Guillemette 2 décembre 2011 Actualités en société

Le Parti québécois veut que Québec intervienne pour fermer les pages Facebook d'intimidateurs et propose d'allouer plus de ressources aux écoles pour s'assurer que bourreaux et victimes soient suivis par un professionnel.

Quelques jours après le suicide d'une jeune fille de 15 ans victime d'intimidation en Gaspésie, l'opposition officielle dresse un bilan négatif du plan d'action contre la violence dans les écoles, mis en place par le gouvernement il y a trois ans et muni d'une enveloppe de 17 millions. «Les contacts que j'ai dans les commissions scolaires me disent que tous les intervenants sont super conscients et font des efforts, a expliqué le porte-parole péquiste en matière d'éducation primaire et secondaire, Sylvain Gaudreault. Mais ils manquent de ressources et sont impuissants devant ce qui se passe sur Facebook.»

Le parti propose d'adopter un plan similaire à celui que possède la France depuis mai dernier. Le ministère français de l'Éducation, via l'organisme e-Enfance, contacte les administrateurs de Facebook pour demander la fermeture des comptes des élèves qui tiennent des propos haineux en ligne.

La présidente de l'organisme de prévention Institut Pacifique, Shirlane Day, est également d'avis que le gouvernement doit agir rapidement pour lutter contre l'intimidation, particulièrement celle sur Internet. «L'enfant subit de l'intimidation en classe, à la sortie des classes, dans l'autobus, mais désormais, on ajoute aussi le soir et la nuit, avec les médias sociaux. Il n'y a plus de pause. Et en plus, c'est viral.»

La ministre de l'Éducation, Line Beauchamp, a affirmé en Chambre que le gouvernement est bien au fait de l'initiative française. «Ça fait partie des discussions et nous suivons de près les actions du gouvernement français, qui a lui-même reconnu toutes les difficultés pour arriver à ce contrôle des pages Facebook parce qu'il y a quand même plusieurs embûches.»

Comment le milieu scolaire s'attaque-t-il à l'intimidation? L'intervention concrète se gère par école, d'après leur code de vie. À cela s'ajoutent les différents programmes que les commissions scolaires proposent aux écoles. «On en fait l'affaire de tous: des écoles, de la commission scolaire, des parents, et on travaille avec des partenaires comme les maisons de jeunes et les policiers», explique le responsable des communications à la Commission scolaire de Montréal, Alain Perron.

Il faut plus, estime le PQ: Québec doit injecter des fonds dans les écoles pour que des professionnels fassent un suivi en continu des cas d'intimidation dans les écoles. Selon ce plan, victime et bourreau auraient des rencontres individuelles régulières, afin d'éviter que des jeunes «puissent passer à travers les mailles du filet».

Le professeur titulaire à l'UQAM et psychologue à l'hôpital Rivière-des-Prairies Réal Labelle juge que les projecteurs sont trop mis sur l'intimidation. Il rappelle que la santé mentale aussi doit être une préoccupation. «L'intimidation, c'est comme une étincelle. Pour que le feu prenne, il faut qu'il y ait autre chose derrière. Quand un enfant change de comportement, on devrait vite le signaler.»



# CARREFOUR COMMUNAUTAIRE [carrefour@ledroit.com](mailto:carrefour@ledroit.com)

## LE PRIX ROBERT-SAUVÉ À FEU PÈRE JEAN-LOUIS MORIN

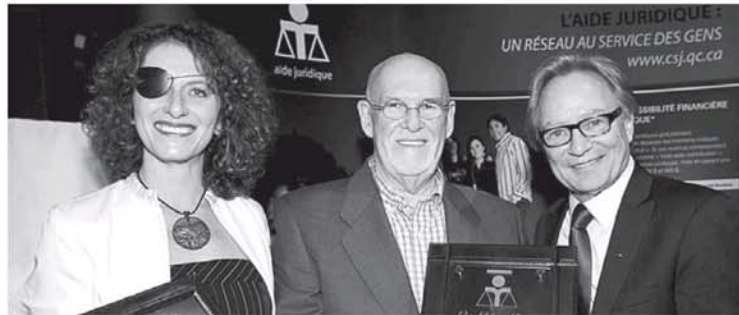


PHOTO COURTOISIE

Le prix Robert-Sauvé, volet grand public, a été remis à titre posthume au père Jean-Louis Morin, le mois dernier. Décédé en 2005, le père Morin a œuvré pendant plus de trente ans auprès des personnes les plus démunies de la société, notamment ceux du Gîte-Ami du secteur Hull et du centre régional Kogaluk. Sur la photo, on retrouve la directrice générale du centre Kogaluk, Jacinthe Potvin, le président de l'organisme, Armand Lelièvre, et le président de la Commission des services juridiques du Québec, M<sup>e</sup> Denis Roy. Les prix Robert-Sauvé sont remis par la Commission des services juridiques du Québec afin de souligner la contribution exceptionnelle de personnes qui ont travaillé à la promotion des droits des démunis.

## MASQUES À OXYGÈNE POUR ANIMAUX DE COMPAGNIE



PHOTO COURTOISIE

Qu'arrive-t-il aux chats et chiens qui ont inhalé de la fumée lors d'un incendie? Une résidente de Cantley, Suzanne Pilon, a organisé une campagne pour que la municipalité se munisse de masques à oxygènes pour animaux. C'est maintenant chose faite, puisque les quatre casernes de la ville ont à leur disposition de tels appareils. Sur la photo, on retrouve Marc Sattler, directeur du service des incendies de Cantley, Suzanne Pilon, organisatrice du projet, Kristina Jensen, présidente du Club Lions de Cantley, et la D<sup>re</sup> Michèle Legault, vétérinaire et résidente de Cantley.

## CINQUANTE ANS DE PROFESSION AGRONOMIQUE

Une quarantaine d'agronomes et leurs conjoints ont rendu un hommage bien mérité à leur collègue Yvan Jacques, LSA, MBA, lors de la Soirée Reconnaissance annuelle de la Section de l'Outaouais de l'Ordre des agronomes du Québec (OAQSO). La soirée s'est tenue au Château Cartier, à Gatineau, le 16 décembre. Des collègues ont rappelé la brillante carrière de M. Jacques, dont Jean-Jacques Simard, président de l'OAQSO; Diane Vincent et Yvon Martel qui ont été sous-ministres adjoints de l'agriculture à Québec et à Ottawa. Gaëtan Lussier, ancien sous-ministre, a résumé la quinzaine d'années au cours desquelles les deux agronomes ont travaillé ensemble et contribué au progrès de l'industrie agroalimentaire.

## DONNER AU GÎTE-AMI

Le Gîte-Ami invite la population à penser aux itinérants et aux plus démunis, lorsque les gens profitent des aubaines du temps des Fêtes. Par exemple: il y a trois ans, les locataires d'un immeuble s'étaient donné comme défi d'acheter une dinde supplémentaire, pendant leurs achats de Noël, pour l'offrir à l'organisme gâtinois. Pour faire des dons, en argent ou en nature, communiquez avec le magasin au 819 776 0134, poste 25.

## PRIX CITRON, PRIX COCO D'IMPÉRATIF FRANÇAIS

Impératif français accepte dès maintenant les candidatures aux titres de prix Citron et Coco. Le mouvement de défense de la langue française remet ces prix aux organismes ou entreprises qui ont besoin d'être sensibilisés à la qualité ou la quantité des services offerts en français. Pour soumettre une candidature, écrivez à [\[ratif-francais.org\]\(http://ratif-francais.org\), ou téléphonez au 819 684 5902. Le formulaire est également disponible en ligne au \[www.imperatif-francais.org\]\(http://www.imperatif-francais.org\).](mailto:imperatif@impe-</a></p>
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## FÊTE DE NOËL RÉUSSIE

L'Association de la Fraternité du secteur Fournier de Gatineau a présenté la semaine passée sa 30<sup>e</sup> édition de la Fête de Noël au Centre Père-Arthur-Guertin. Près de 400 personnes ont assisté à cette grande fête de quartier, dont près de 200 enfants qui ont tous reçu un cadeau des mains du père Noël. La conseillère Denise Laferrière et le maire Marc Bureau ont aussi participé aux festivités. La responsable de l'activité, Audette LeBel, a tenu à remercier la trentaine de bénévoles qui ont rendu cette fête possible, les nombreux commanditaires, ainsi que la Ville de Gatineau.

## MERCI AU MAGASIN CHEZ TANTE MARIE

Le magasin Chez Tante Marie a été remercié pour avoir répondu à l'appel de la Saint-Vincent de Paul, cette année, à l'approche du temps des Fêtes. Roland Hévey et Marcel Tremblay, de la société, ont souligné le travail de Janick Desormeaux, gérante, et Chantal Sauvé, assistante gérante.

## DES PANIERS DE NOËL LIVRÉS PAR LES CAISSES POPULAIRES

Les caisses populaires Vision et Rideau d'Ottawa ont livré 30 paniers de Noël à des familles dans le besoin, la fin de semaine dernière. Employés et administrateurs ont organisé ce projet, de la cueillette de denrées à la livraison des paniers. Le Centre de ressources communautaires de la Basse-Ville, l'école secondaire Queen Elizabeth, le Collège catholique Franco-Ouest, les Sœurs de la Charité d'Ottawa et la Paroisse St-François d'Assise ont également contribué, en identifiant les familles dans le besoin.

PARENTS, GRANDS-PARENTS, ONCLES, TANTES, AMIS ...  
PRÉSENTEZ-NOUS VOS BÉBÉS PRÉFÉRÉS...

# Les BÉBÉS 2011

LeDroit



Le 14 janvier 2012, nos lecteurs admireront vos jolis poupons dans notre cahier spécial. Les noms des gagnants des prix de participation offerts y seront également dévoilés.

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20 décembre 2011 | Le Droit | SAMUEL BLAIS-GAUTHIER

# La magie des villages de Noël

Certaines personnes adorent s'imprégner de la magie des Fêtes. C'est le cas de Lucie Lortie et Gérry Lacroix qui, pour une sixième année, ont donné vie à tout un village féerique de Noël dans leur demeure de Bourget, dans l'est ontarien. Plus de 1500 figurines et statuettes animent ce monde enchanté où règne l'esprit des Fêtes.

« Lorsque j'étais petite, chez nous, Noël a toujours eu quelque chose de particulier et de significatif. C'était la fête. C'est un peu ce que je veux refaire vivre en aménageant ce village de Noël – plutôt, cette ville de Noël maintenant ! Puis, il n'y a rien comme voir les yeux des visiteurs s'allumer devant ce petit monde », confie Lucie Lortie.

Le couple de Bourget a mis plus d'un mois à aménager leur sous-sol afin d'en faire une véritable confiserie pour les yeux.

« Dès octobre, on s'active. La musique de Noël se met à jouer et on ne se tanne pas », a lancé à la blague Gérry Lacroix.

Tout le mois de décembre et jusqu'à la fin janvier, Gérry Lacroix et sa compagne ouvrent leurs portes pour offrir des visites du village de Noël en échange d'une petite contribution qui sera versée à la Fondation des maladies du coeur et à la Société canadienne du cancer.

À quelque pas de là, à Rockland, Carole Dubois est aussi l'artisane d'un autre véritable village de Noël. Ça fait 14 ans qu'elle dispose soigneusement édifices et personnages, ne laissant rien au hasard. C'est quelque 700 articles qui meublent son univers des Fêtes.

Les enfants à la patinoire, les amoureux sur la balançoire qui saluent M. Guindon occupé à déneiger l'entrée : le souci du détail se faire sentir.

« Noël, c'est la fête des enfants. Je retombe en enfance chaque année lorsque je bâtis mon village de Noël. Je m'amuse », partage Carole Dubois.



Il est également possible de visiter le village de Noël de Mme Dubois qui, elle aussi, accepte les dons qu'elle remettra à la Société canadienne du cancer.

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# Bully for you

**As Ontario ponders legislation to get tough on bullies in schools, researchers know more than ever about why kids behave like mini Machiavellis — and what can be done about it, writes JOANNE LAUCIUS.**

Psychologist and researcher Dr. Tracy Vaillancourt has conducted assessments of bullying at dozens of schools. But even before she crunches the numbers for a school, her gut usually tells her how it will fare from the moment she walks through the door.

The attitude of the school secretary is often the first tip-off, she says. If the secretary is friendly and welcoming, then the school is probably healthy. A secretary who is rude or dismissive is often an indicator bullying is rampant in the school.

The reason? If the secretary is rude to visitors within the principal's hearing, it's usually a sign that the climate in the school allows the staff to be disrespectful to each other and the students, she says. And that gives the students permission to undermine each other.

Vaillancourt has seen large variables in the amount of bullying in schools, with some as low as three per cent and others as high as 60 per cent.

"If schools are to be successful in tackling bullying, they have to model appropriate behaviour on the part of adults," says Vaillancourt, the Canada Research Chair in children's mental health and violence prevention at the University of Ottawa. "And there are many schools where teachers are not respectful of each other, and are not respectful of students."

At issue is moral disengagement, the ability to justify treating others badly and not feel guilty about it. Psychologists already know bullies feel morally disengaged. Now they want to know if bystanders who observe bullying and do nothing about it have the same attitude,

"If the collective is morally disengaged, kids get bullied," says Vaillancourt.

In 2006, a network of researchers and governmental and non-governmental agencies launched PREVNET, to look at ways of preventing bullying. David Smith, a professor of education at the University of Ottawa who has analysed anti-bullying initiatives in Canada and abroad, says there's a growing body of evidence about what works.



According to the Ontario Ministry of Education's definition, bullying involves an intent to hurt, an abuse of power and it occurs repeatedly over time, says Smith.

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# Bullies: Everyone has to make it their business

Bill 157, the Keeping Our Kids Safe at School Act, which became law in 2010, makes it mandatory for school staff to report to the principal when they see an incident that could result in a student suspended or expelled. Staff must also respond if they see behaviour that might have an impact on the climate of the school.



ERIC LIEBOWITZ, THE CW

## Leighton Meester uses bullying to get what she want in *Gossip Girl*.

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School programs that succeed in reducing bullying have one thing in common: they are comprehensive and involve the whole school in a coordinated and systematic way, says Smith.

"It instills in the school community a common language for talking about bullying and identifying it."

What is most important is the social climate. Students understand that bullying is not accepted, and when staff see it, they do something about it. Adults need to take the lead and the principal in particular needs to take a strong leadership role.

"You need to generate a critical mass of enthusiasm and energy," says Smith. "It takes a lot of work to get everyone on board. Everyone has to make it part of their business."

One of the programs that has proven effective is WITS, which encourages students who are bullied to Walk Away, Ignore, Talk It Out and Seek Help. Developed by University of Victoria psychologist Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater, WITS is being used in a pilot program in partnership with the RCMP to prevent bullying in elementary schools.

But there are other programs that have no proof of effectiveness, says Smith. One program, for

example, teaches victims to stand up to bullies.

"That completely misses the point. Victims can't stand up to bullies. They need adult help."

There are two types of bullies. The first is the "popular aggressor" — usually a high-status student who is socially motivated to hang on or climb the power structure.

"Most kids are popular bullies, but they don't get caught," says Vaillancourt. "Bullying makes some kids popular and helps them maintain popularity. They are competing for hegemony."

The second type is the "life course" bully. This is the classic bully, like Nelson Muntz, the resident elementary school tormentor on the *The Simpsons*. These bullies are often the product of poverty, dysfunctional families, neglect or abuse. Nelson occasionally shows flashes of intelligence and kindness, but these overtures are treated with suspicion by his fellow students and dismissed by adults.

Life course bullies are the least likely to benefit from zero tolerance programs because suspending them for bullying simply gives them time off, says Vaillancourt.

"Suspension puts these kids at risk. These kids are not without redeeming qualities. Zero tolerance doesn't work."

Children play different roles in the bullying spectrum, and the roles can be fluid, says Smith. In the space of one recess, a child can be both a bully and a victim. "People see kids associated with a situation and that kid will be pigeonholed as a bully or a victim," he says. "But it can change from one minute to the next."

Bullying also decreases with age as children are better able to self-regulate, says Vaillancourt. "There is a developmental component to this that needs to be recognized."

She believes bullying is rooted in our evolutionary past, but that doesn't mean it is impossible to prevent. "We just have to work a little harder on what we're doing."

But not every child has the power to be a bully, says Vaillancourt. In the high school clique system there are cliques with varying degrees of power. Those at the top of the status hierarchy — the "populars" — have the most power. But every clique has its own hierarchy.

"You can be in a lower-status group, but you can be the top dog of that group," she says.

"The science supports that we are all not bullies. But we all experience bullying because we witness it."

It is very difficult for bystanders to summon the gumption to defend someone who is being bullied because they know it's social suicide.

"Kids have a fundamental need to belong. It goes against their agenda," says Vaillancourt.

The key is to make it possible for as many bystanders as possible to stand up to bullies so it takes the pressure off the few who are willing to stick their necks out to defend the victims. "We have to create schools where it's cool to care," she says.

A simple way to reduce bullying would be to increase adult supervision. One study of 16,000 students in the Hamilton area showed that children were more likely to be bullied if there was no adult present. There is a problem with this solution, however. Under their collective agreements, teachers are limited in terms of the amount of time they must spend outside at recess and lunchtime.

"We can't have kids fending for themselves," says Vaillancourt. "The more eyes on the playground, the better it will be."

Danielle Quigley, a PHD student in development psychology at Carleton University, has studied social aggression and the desire for status and power in elementary schools in rural Eastern Ontario. She also prepared a unit about social relationships for the Girl Guides of Canada, which has programs for girls between the ages of five to 18. The requirements range from talking to a new person for a five-year-old to exploring the depiction of girls on television and in the movies to writing a "friendship bill of rights" about the parameters of rights and responsibilities in a friendship.

The children who are the least likely to be bullied are those with larger, looser social networks.

"If you have lots of different friends, then you have lots of different options," Quigley says.

Although girls are often considered downright Machiavellian about "mean girls" aggressiveness, Quigley's research on children in Grades 4 to 7 looked at social aggression in both boys and girls. The girls were only marginally more socially aggressive than the boys.

In her study, she offered both boys and girls a scenario: they have made plans to do something with their best friend, but the best friend invites another boy or girl.

Quigley found that many elementary schoolchildren were willing to turn on their best friend if they felt justified by jealousy or anger.

Those who admitted that they were jealous were more likely to say they would engage in relational aggression, seeking revenge by doing something like spreading rumours. Those who described their feelings as anger were most likely to say they would do something physically aggressive, such as punching their best friend in the arm.

"Jealousy predicted relational aggression. The same was true to a lesser extent of boys," says Quigley.

She notes that girl-to-girl social violence has become more celebrated in popular culture in TV shows such as *The Bachelor* and *Gossip Girl*, which show attractive young women undermining each other.

Quigley believes the proposed legislation, which would encourage the creation of organizations like gay-straight alliances, would help create a celebration of diversity.

As for expelling bullies, that would allow incidents to be tracked. But on the other hand, it would take bullies away from the help and support they get from peers and teachers. Expelling students does not teach them coping strategies, she says.

"I don't know that there's a whole lot we teach children about emotional regulation. We need to help kids understand that it's not OK to do these things."

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Article rank | 20 Dec 2011 | Ottawa Citizen | MATTHEW PEARSON [mpearson@ottawacitizen.com](mailto:mpearson@ottawacitizen.com)  
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# International students crucial to Carleton, provost says

## University committee rejects partnership with private recruiter

Carleton University will be left in the dust if it doesn't take bold steps to attract more international students at a time of declining domestic enrolment, a senior executive says.

Peter Ricketts, the school's provost and academic vice-president, made the comments in response to a decision not to partner with a private company to recruit international students and provide them with their first year of instruction at a small for-profit college to be housed on the Ottawa campus. The proposal had not been warmly received by campus unions and student groups, which feared job losses and further privatization on campus.

After considering it for almost a year, a 23-member committee comprising department chairs, senior university staff and students has recommended Carleton not partner with the Australian company Navitas, which is already operating on two other Canadian campuses.

Ricketts said he supported the conclusion, but urged the university community not to adopt a "bunker mentality" when it came to innovation.

"We will quickly be left behind in the dust if we restrict ourselves to slow, incremental growth in a time of intensifying global competitiveness," Ricketts wrote in response to the committee's recommendations. "If we are not going to be trailblazers with regards to Navitas, we must not be afraid of seeking other innovative ways to expand the pace of international recruitment."

The committee says that Carleton's efforts to attract international students are paying off and that signing a contract with a private company would diminish the university's control over its own strategic development.

It says the university has spent the past 15 years rebuilding its reputation at home and abroad and should protect what it has accomplished thus far. "We are at a very sensitive time when the fruits of those labours are starting to pay off in terms of how we are perceived abroad and the increasing numbers of students who are choosing Carleton over other Canadian universities," the committee wrote.

"We are ready to take on the world."

The committee recommends that Carleton grow its international student population steadily, invest more money in its current international recruiting efforts, continue developing an in-house foundation program similar to what Navitas would have offered, and spend more time talking about the effect large numbers of international students have on certain programs.

Ricketts said Navitas would have generated a lot of new international students that currently aren't coming to the school and said he was "disappointed" with aspects of the committee's report "because I wasn't sure they really got the message that this is going to be an issue for Carleton and for any Ontario university."

"I think the situation is a little more urgent than perhaps the working group concluded it was," he said.

Ricketts agrees that ramping up international recruiting efforts is key, but notes it's expensive. Partnering with Navitas would have given Carleton access to the company's extensive international recruitment network.

He points out Carleton did not meet its target for international student enrolment this year.

He's also worried about the future, noting projections show a significant decline in the 18-year-old population in Ontario commencing after 2013 and continuing through to 2020.

If the numbers prove true and the cash-strapped province tightens its belt, as expected, the university will have to find new ways to generate revenue.

The provincial government has so far protected education from cuts, but Ricketts said that could change. "We can't be sure that's going to continue if they're seriously going to reduce the deficit," he said.

International students are attractive to universities because they pay significantly higher tuition fees

than domestic students.

A partnership with Navitas could have created two revenue streams for Carleton, worth as much as \$14 million annually, in the form of royalty fees from the company and tuition fees from students if they went on to spend three more years in Carleton's degree programs once completing the foundation year.



There's no doubt the partnership would have created a lot of work for some people at Carleton, but, Ricketts said, that work "would be worth it if it provided Carleton with the ability to ramp up international enrolments to a level that offsets declines in domestic enrolments and/ or replaced revenues lost from provincial funding cuts."

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# The Canadian winter, in all its glory

In the late afternoon of November 12, 1968, the students of Westmount High School were staying late to watch a movie in the auditorium. It was *The Guns of Navarone*.

Outside, in Montreal, it was snowing. Heavily. Even if the school knew a blizzard was raging, we would not be sent home, certainly not before Anthony Quinn had vanquished the Nazis.

When we emerged at six o'clock, snow had been falling for three hours. It was November. Winter was early. I had no boots.

I fought to board a crowded Bus 124. It moaned, climbing the snowclogged hills. When I reached my stop, the drifts were up to my waist.

School bag in hand, I trudged home, blanketed in white, feet soaked, shoes ruined. When I arrived hours late, no one was terribly worried. School was not cancelled the next day. This was the 1960s.

At 13, I felt triumphant, the way we always did when we waded through the Apocalypse and came out the other side.

I recall this introduction to winter with the same warmth as Adam Gopnik does in *Winter: Five Windows on the Season*. For Gopnik, the celebrated essayist and author who had just moved to Montreal as an adolescent, that storm was one of life's memorable moments. "I knew that I crossed over into a new world — and that world was the world of winter," he writes in his fine meditation.

His first enduring impression of winter came from watching it that day through a picture window in an apartment, contemplating its beauty. Mine came fighting it in the streets, feeling its fury. We were both charmed.

Ah, winter. It begins Thursday, snow or not. For Canadians, it remains an existential reality, which is why it's surprising no one before Gopnik had explored it in the 50 years of the CBC Massey Lectures, from which this book is drawn.

Winter isn't universally beloved, as Hubert Lacroix, president of the CBC, noted when he introduced Gopnik in October before his lecture in Toronto. "I hate winter," declared Lacroix, counting the ways, implying that Gopnik's homage wouldn't be worth the time. His remarks were banal and self-indulgent.

It is a mistake to dismiss winter. It is too much a part of our history and geography, too much a part of our art, music, poetry, philosophy and science, too central to our lives in this neighbourhood — to decry it, deny it or defy it.

Instead, as Gopnik enthuses, let's celebrate it. For too long, the popular trend has been to mock winter, to underestimate it.

Some time ago we decided that we no longer needed snow tires; "all-weather tires" would do, even if we slid. We decided that we didn't have to dress for winter (particularly teenagers); thin coats would do, even if we froze. Like drinking fountains, we abandoned cloakrooms in our schools and community halls.

We began to merge the seasons, winterizing cottages and barbecuing in winter, playing hockey in fall and spring. We began to turn up the heat and wear short-sleeves at home.

Hell, we didn't even have to face winter anymore. We could escape to Florida; in our indebted society the tropical vacation is now a rite — if not a right — of citizenship in our cold kingdom.

Then came the tarnishing of two of winter's jewels: hockey and Christmas. Hockey is besmirched by contrived fighting and medieval hitting, but mediocrity is the real danger. As for Christmas, we question its place in a society to accommodate those sensitive souls who find it offensive, an anxiety unthinkable to Jews, Muslims and others in Canada a generation ago.

The war on winter denies that anything useful or pleasurable could happen between December and March in our dark, white icebox. That winter is — or must be — intolerable.

Gopnik knows that isn't so. Having rejected fur, we manage winter now by wearing down coats (the highly successful Canada Goose) and affordable cashmere sweaters (hail, the revival of the shawl-collared cardigan). We favour flannel sheets, which have made a remarkable comeback.

In Oslo, seats in the new opera house have corresponding hooks in an accessible cloakroom, sparing patrons the harried clerks, long lines and \$2 coat-check fees typical of the National Arts Centre and other venues.

We build underground cities, knowing that life above is cool, too. We have winter festivals.

How to honour winter in a warming world?

In cities like Ottawa, create artificial skating rinks. Make skiing and skating mandatory in school.

Offer blankets in outdoor cafés and light candles in shop windows and doorways, as they do in Denmark.

Take the Arctic seriously, learning from Scandinavia. Declare a national winter holiday. Most of all, start thinking of ourselves as a northern people, which we are.



Ah, winter. Time to come in from the cold.

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# Meeooooow! The claws come out when women see a sexual rival

BY JOANNE LAUCIUS, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN    DECEMBER 2, 2011



'Conservative Lisa': University of Ottawa professor Tracy Vaillancourt monitored young women's aggression toward a woman dressed in a sexy manner and the same woman dressed in a conservative manner.

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OTTAWA — Young women are more likely to be nasty to women they consider to be a sexual rival, says a University of Ottawa professor's study of how young women reacted to the same woman dressed two ways.

In the study, published Tuesday in the journal *Aggressive Behaviour*, other women gauged the "bitchiness" of female undergraduates' reactions to the same attractive young woman. In one scenario, the woman was dressed provocatively. In the other, she was dressed conservatively.

Tracy Vaillancourt, a professor of psychology and education, conducted two tests with unsuspecting female undergraduates at McMaster University in Hamilton.

It's well-known that men compete aggressively for the attention of available women. Even though we see this in popular culture — *The Bachelor*, a reality show where young women compete for the

affections of an attractive, high-achieved man is a prime example — the study shows scientifically that women will also behave aggressively to undermine a sexy rival, says Vaillancourt. Aanchal Sharma of McMaster University was the second researcher in the study.

“We have an old brain living in a modern context. There’s a lot of hypocrisy. If you deride social convention, don’t be surprised by the reaction,” she says.

“I’ve been walking around campus for years. I’ve seen it in high schools. I’ve seen it on campus. I’ve seen it downtown.”

In the first part of the study, 86 young women, who were paired with either a friend or a female stranger, were told that they would take part in a videotaped panel about conflict in relationships. In one scenario, involving half the subjects, a student named Lisa wearing a miniskirt and tight pink T-shirt walked into room and called a research associate away.

In the other scenario involving the other half of the students, Lisa was dressed conservatively.

Everything in both scenarios was scripted. Lisa behaved exactly the same in both scenarios, from the number of steps she took to her words and her facial expression.

Next, 66 young women, who did not see Lisa’s role in the scenario, were asked to assess how “bitchy” the subjects were being in the videotape.

The undergraduates’ reaction to Lisa differently depending on how she dressed. When she dressed provocatively, they rolled their eyes and stared at her up and down while she was in the room. One subject even said to her: “What the f--- is that?”

When sexy Lisa left the room, many of the participants laughed at her, ridiculed her appearance or suggested that she was sexually available. One suggested she wanted to have sex with her professor. Another said her “boobs were about to pop out.”

All but two of the subjects behaved or said something aggressive about the provocatively dressed woman, says Vaillancourt, who expected some aggression, but was surprised at the overwhelming number of women who reacted this way.

“These are bright young women. They represent a more liberal sector of society,” she said.

In a another study, a group of undergraduate women were shown three photos of Lisa, one sexy and the other conservative. The third was sexy image but doctored to make her look overweight.

The subjects said they would not want to introduce the women in either of the sexy photos to their existing or future boyfriends. Neither would they want to be friends with her.

“It’s guilt by association,” says Vaillancourt.

She would like to conduct other research on both female and male aggressiveness towards an attractive peer. "I'd like to see with adolescents, at what age does it appear?"

And she would also like to see how men react to the male equivalent of sexy Lisa — Sidney Crosby, say, or Bradley Cooper. Or throw a male in with two women and see if it would moderate their aggressiveness towards a sexy rival.

"This is the first study I know of that uses experimental design," says Vaillancourt.

"It makes The Bachelor look legitimate. It's not staged."

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'Conservative Lisa': University of Ottawa professor Tracy Vaillancourt monitored young women's aggression toward a woman dressed in a sexy manner and the same woman dressed in a conservative manner.



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# Nepean teacher honoured for aboriginal history program

Sylvia Smith has received the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching for Project of Heart, which educates youth about the inequalities of the residential school system, writes HILARY DUFF.

It was two years ago that Shannara Nafe started to work with Sylvia Smith and her Project of Heart program.



JULIE OLIVER, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

**Elizabeth Wyn Wood Alternate High School teacher Sylvia Smith was recently awarded the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching by Governor General David Johnston at Rideau Hall.**

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At the time, the 17-year-old student was venting in her business class about the treatment of the Honduras people by the government.

"Go see Sylvia. She'll know what to do," was the response she got from her teacher.

Smith is one of six teachers who recently received the Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching during a ceremony at Rideau Hall.

The award recognizes Smith's Project of Heart, an interactive program that aims to educate young students about the inequalities suffered by aboriginal groups in residential schools. Project of Heart is now being taught in classrooms and community groups across the country.

For students such as Nafe, it has been the chance to learn firsthand about the unfair treatment of aboriginal people and the continuing debate over the Truth and Reconciliation Act.

Project of Heart started in 2007 at Elizabeth Wyn Wood Alternative High School.

The school caters to students who have switched out of other schools for a variety of reasons and teaches students practical life skills alongside the normal academic lessons.

A school like this is the perfect environment for the program, Smith says.

"These are kids who have fallen through the cracks in other systems, the ones who have a lived experience of being marginalized, of not being successful, of being 'othered.' I think that because of that you don't have to sell a project like this. They're engaged in it immediately."

Project of Heart has five main components, all of which offer students an unconventional look at an important subject.

The most visual of these steps is the tile decorating stage, where students paint domino-sized pieces of wood as a heartfelt expression of their feelings. Smith is aiming to have at least 50,000 of these tiles painted through a national effort.

One of the other goals of the program is to create a comfortable space where students can talk about their own experiences.

"What's really kind of cool is that once students feel like the project is a safe place that's centered around the indigenous experience, I've found that it's much easier for them to chime up," she says.

According to Smith, she has had a number of students of aboriginal descent self-identify to her for the first time in their lives.

Smith's engaged teaching method has also garnered glowing reviews from her students.

Nafe says Smith's enthusiasm for the subject made it difficult for her to not want to get involved.

"She's not a pusher of her views, but she feels really strongly about them, so when she explains them you can't help but feel the same," Nafe says. "It's almost like her energy rubs off on you." Callie Morrison, 17, agrees. Morrison also says the hands-on aspects of the project, like the tile painting, make it a better way to learn about history.

Another one of the unique components to Project of Heart is having a guest speaker come and talk to the students. This speaker is normally a survivor of a residential school or someone that has otherwise been directly impacted by the issue.

"He talked about his experience with the residential school and how it affected him and his family," Morrison says, recalling her guest speaker. "It was really emotional."

As part of her award, Smith received \$2,500, which will go toward the Project of Heart, she says.

"What we're doing is extremely grassroots and because there is really no funding for this project, it's a lot of love that helps pay for things. This will help," she says.