



Case Closed

By Wayne and Tamara

I met my boyfriend on an online dating service four months ago. About a month ago I went to the dating service website to take my profile off. Out of curiosity I looked his up, and it was still there. When I mentioned it to him, he said he would take his profile off because he wanted to be with me.

Now I know I should have trusted him, but something told me to test him. So I created a fake profile with a picture of an attractive woman and e-mailed him as the other woman. When he didn't respond, I e-mailed again. He still didn't respond. I realized then he must have canceled his membership, so I looked him up and inquired if he was the guy on the dating site. I told him I was new to the site, thought he was attractive, and maybe we could meet for a drink sometime. When I asked if he was seeing someone, he said he met someone who could be serious and had a lot of potential. I asked again if he wanted to meet, and eventually he said maybe.

That broke my heart. I got my girlfriend to phone him as the other girl. When she got him on the line, he was suspicious but hesitantly agreed to meet her for a drink. At that point I told him I was the girl who didn't exist. He said he thought it was either me or some kind of prank. I am not a jealous person by any means, but I wonder if we can get past this.

Eva
Eva, the law does not permit entrapment. Entrapment occurs when the idea for a crime is suggested by the police, the police talk a person into committing the crime, and the person was not previously willing to commit the crime.

Once you realized your boyfriend canceled his membership you should have stopped. He is innocent of any crime, but you have proven you are by nature a jealous person.

Tamara

Favorite Son

My husband's parents own a dairy farm, and his brother works full-time on the farm and draws a wage. My husband has a very demanding job, yet he is expected to work on the farm each weekend, count cattle in the morning, and does not get paid even for gas.

Our family time is nonexistent. The phone rings and my husband runs. The only time we get together is when I book a holiday. I really think my husband is frightened of his parents. They say his brother needs time with his child, but what about me and our children?

When we go away, my husband is so burnt out he is ill for the first few days of our break. But when we are away, he is like a different person. I'd do anything to save my marriage, but I'm not sure how much more I can take.

Mona
Mona, there is a South American bird with two subspecies, one which builds a nest on the ground and one which nests in a tree. Occasionally a male of one subspecies will get together with a female of the other.


When this happens the birds live in great confusion. One puts nesting material on the ground, while the other continually moves it to the branch of a tree. The two never succeed in building a proper nest and usually this results in a mating failure. Occasionally, however, they do struggle and successfully raise chicks.

Good parents raise their children to be independent and self-sufficient, knowing that love is the bond which will hold their children to them always. Some parents, however, use demands and obligations to tether their children. That is your husband's problem.

There is no resolution to this problem unless your husband decides he wants to build his nest with you.

Wayne





RRSP vs TFSA vs FHSA

By Bruno Scanga
Financial Columnist

Which investment option is best for you!

When it comes time to decide which mix of savings is best for you, your options can look quite confusing. There are registered retirement saving plans (RRSP's) Tax free saving accounts (TFSA's and First Home Buyers saving accounts (FHSA).

Establishing which plan or combination of plans works best for you depends on your own personal, goals and financial situation.

RRSP's, TFSA, s FHSA's

Most Canadians hold RRSP's where they can claim deduction and then the deferral of tax until they withdraw funds at retirement. RRSP's have numerous other benefits and as Canadians many do not use these upon reaching retirement. Something you may wish to discuss in your preretirement years.

The introduction of TFSA has provided another powerful saving tool that allows investments to grow tax free with the opportunity to withdraw funds when need. This does have some restrictions if funds are withdrawn same year of contributions. The withdrawal of TFSA can create costly penalties if funds are repaid to quick.


First Homebuyers saving accounts FHSA is the newest registered plans that gives first time home buyers the opportunity to invest up to \$40,000.00 in a lifetime for the purchase of a first homeowner tax free basis. This plan be open if you are over the age of 18. This plan is a great tool for grandparents that wish to help kids and grandkids with saving for a first home. Ask a qualified investment advisor how to arrange suggest a plan.

Like RRSP contributions are tax deductible and withdrawals for the purchase of a new home are non taxable like a TFSA

All plans have limits and maximum contribution limits, and you should always confirm your contribution limit in you CRA my Account.

Before making contributions discuss your options with a qualified investment advisor to ensure you are in vesting in plans that follow your risk tolerance.

Simple planning gets you where you need to go never chase the larger returns can bring larger loses.



It Is Not What It Seems!!!

A Candid Conversation
By Theresa Grant
Real Estate Columnist

This may seem like a personal rant but after speaking with several of my neighbours over the last couple of weeks I can guarantee you it is not.

What I am referring to is communication, or to be more precise, the lack there of between the public and their elected City Councillors.


Why is it that some Councillors are master communicators and others are missing in action? Take Rick Kerr and Brian Nicholson for example, they are both known for responding to their constituents. Actually, because they both communicate so well, a lot of people that are not residents of their wards will ask questions of them on Facebook regarding community matters and they will respond.

One Councillor in particular, Derek Giberson, who has been basically invisible for the last three years has now predicably started posting on Facebook that he is doing this or that in the hopes of having people think that he's been doing this community work since he got elected three years ago, but he has been for the most part unseen and unheard. Now all of a sudden, he has taken to Facebook to post that he is hosting a series of meetings on the housing crisis, like he's some kind of rock star. Well, the housing crisis is not new. In fact, the only thing that is new in this whole situation is that he is talking to the public.

I happened to notice a post that Derek Giberson made on Facebook a few weeks ago and it really irritated me. It irritated me because he is a Councillor that is well known for next to no interaction with his constituents. The people who elected him. His post on Facebook had the commenting turned off. It prompted me to make a post myself asking what kind of Councillor makes a post and turns commenting off? Well, the kind that is not interested in what the public has to say. That's exactly who does that. Within one hour, Derek Giberson had the commenting turned on. Hmm...looks like someone took notice.

Just the other day my post received a message from another constituent. He said that he had hand delivered two letters to this Councillor at City Hall and made a few phone calls. This gentleman got no response to his hand delivered letters nor did he receive a return phone call.

Why does any Councillor anywhere think that that type of behaviour is alright? Moreover, why in the world would someone think they stand a chance of being reelected by people that they've ignored for their entire term in office? It certainly makes one wonder.



The Politics in a Paintbrush

The Power of Political Art Within our Society

By Camryn Bland
Youth Columnist

Art is integrated into nearly every aspect of our society, from the clothes we wear to the movies we watch and the music we listen to. Over time, the history of art has evolved, however the purpose has stood consistent. Historically, art has been used to express emotion, illustrate global issues, and highlight an important event. Regardless of the format, style, or intention, there is one common theme which has always been prominent within the arts: political intention.

Regardless of the genre or medium of art, every piece created makes a statement. An attractive landscape says something about beauty and peace, while professional portraits make a comment about power dynamics and hierarchy. Even abstract art speaks of atypical interpretation and works to challenge normality. All these forms are political, not because they focus on government itself, but because they engage in society, power dynamics, and social ideals. A piece does not need to revolve around a political system itself, but to question the systems and everyday influences which govern our individuality.

Although all art contains political meaning, this can be expressed in many different ways, both upfront and more symbolic. Committed art presents an obvious, evident meaning to the viewer, often addressing themes regarding environmental issues, societal pressures, and social justice. This contrasts with avant-garde art, which pushes boundaries but may not have a clear meaning. Avant-garde art includes more room for personal interpretation, asking the viewer questions which may otherwise be ignored. Both styles leave viewers questioning our society and its systems, which is what makes the politics in art so significant.

Arthur Miller's The Crucible, first published in the 1950s, is a powerful example of political art. Through the play, Miller tells the story of the Salem Witch Trials, while commenting on the Second Red Scare and political fear in his time. The warnings and morals are clear, making it a piece of committed art, while continuing to be an interesting and entertaining play.

Modern films and books have an equal political meaning, some more obvious than others. For example, the fictional nation Panem from The Hunger Games is not just a fictional world, but a society which reflects some of the most dystopian ideas which we have today. This includes extreme inequality, political control, and misinformation. Despite the light-hearted mood, the 2023 Barbie movie is another strong example, as it reached the hearts of countless people by highlighting misogyny and sexism still prevalent today. Even less obvious media, such as superhero movies, talk of helping those with lower socioeconomic status, supporting refugees, and fighting against inequality.

The halftime show at the 2026 Superbowl shows the power of political activism through art-work. Bad Bunny, a Puerto Rican singer, performed at the halftime show, a performance that upset millions of football fans. Despite the resistance, Bad Bunny used this platform to promote his message of equity and peace, displaying messages such as "the only thing more powerful than love is hate." His performance inspired countless individuals to stand up for what they believe in and fight for social justice.

When discussing art, it is important to understand the wider scope of the influence. Art is not just classical paintings of flowers or ancient sculptures, but also the fashion we wear and the songs we hear. Every art piece of it says something about our society, and about who we are as individuals. In the wrong hands, art can be used as propaganda to lead the misinformed or to spread hate, however it can also be used to fight against this exact corruption.

The right paintbrush, guitar, or script in the right hand can be a powerful weapon against injustice worldwide. Art is a universal language of protest, of change, and of love, and it has been used as such for thousands of years. One good painting can touch our hearts, souls, and entire nations.