

Former soldier fights Canada's role



by Tamara Fuchinsky
Langara Voice
(Langara College)

VANCOUVER (CUP) -- Canada needs to re-examine its role in Afghanistan, says the first person to resign from the Canadian Armed Forces over the war.

Francisco Juarez said he believes the mission goes against Canadian values and is a contrast to our traditional role as peacekeepers in a speech Oct. 19 at the Unitarian Church Sanctuary in Vancouver.

Lured by the promise of full reimbursement for tuition fees, Juarez signed up for the army in 2002. The Victoria, B.C., native served three and a half years in the navy aboard the HMCS Algonquin before he decided to transfer to the reserves so he could have more time to focus on his studies.

He applied to become an infantry officer with the hopes of serving in Afghanistan.

"I felt that by working at this level, I could use my skills in mediation and conflict resolution to advance the humanitarian emphasis of the Canadian mission in Afghanistan," Juarez said.

It was during his training in New Brunswick last August when he started to have doubts. Conversations with his family, who did not support war, led him to question his own beliefs.

"I thought about what my role might be in commanding individuals to go to their death in a conflict that I saw as ill-considered and in support of U.S. global war on the runaway CIA henchman," he said.

When Juarez realized he could not participate in the war with a clear conscience, he asked to be released from the army. He was charged with poor discipline and un-officer-like behaviour and was dismissed without honour.

He is currently travelling across Canada to speak out against the war.

Juarez said he believes Canada has a place in Afghanistan, but what sort of place needs to be talked about among Canadians.

Privacy not secure on online networks

Info from some sites may fall into wrong hands

by Lauren Millet
The Cord Weekly
(Wilfrid Laurier University)

WATERLOO, Ont. (CUP) - Facebook and MySpace are two of the most popular virtual destinations in a vast array of online networking sites that allow people to post and share their personal information. And for some, this is raising privacy concerns.

According to Bob Spence, the information and privacy commissioner of Ontario, there is a "phenomenal increase in interest in these sites."

"It's gone from relatively small interest say, a year or so ago, to hundreds of thousands of hits on a variety of similar websites," he said.

Facebook has fared particularly well.

"It's always open on my computer," says second-year student Allison MacDonald. "I check it probably seven to eight times a day to see if people have posted new pictures up or written something on my wall... It's just procrastinating and wasting time, and Facebook is there to help you do it."

"Some people are alcoholics; well, I'm a Facebook-a-holic," said MacDonald with a shrug.

While some students have jumped right on the Facebook bandwagon, others have completely let it pass them by.

"It's just never appealed to me to be on a network with people I don't even know," said first-year student Leish Rowden. "Who knows what people might be doing with my information?"

This information, if not properly protected or controlled, could become available to unwanted and potentially dangerous viewers, warned Spence.

Although these sites can allow students to contact and build relationships with students who have similar interests, when building a profile, one must be

aware of the implications associated with posting such personal information, he said.

"People are using them [the sites] without even considering the privacy options," said Spence.

Facebook hasn't escaped the notice of John Metcalfe, acting director of Wilfrid Laurier's Information and Privacy Office.

"The Hamilton Police announced a few weeks ago that university students are the favourite target for identity theft," he said. "They have good earning potential, which means good credit potential. So, four years from now, when a student wants to get a loan to buy a car, they realize they have a mortgage on a house and nine credit cards, all maxed out."

Some sites, said Spence, have privacy options where users can limit access to their files. "We have been talking to the media to draw attention to the fact that anyone using these sites, they do have privacy options."

Facebook, for example, does allow people to choose to be part of a "closed-network," which consists of only individuals from a verified community. You can also choose to block your name from searches outside the network where you belong.

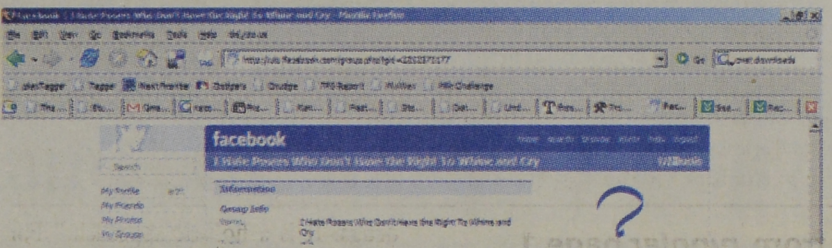
"I think [social networking sites] serve an interesting purpose but I think that young people are far too free with the different uses of their personal information," said Metcalfe.

"You can use these things in a smart way; that is, don't put your whole name, don't put your phone number, etc. Some people just don't realize that there are people out there who are villains."

Spence said he hopes that students will look into the privacy controls of any site they join. Find out if you have the option to block the access of unknown viewers and take the time to make an informed decision about your site of choice, he warned.

Metcalfe said he thinks people will change what kind of information they post on the internet.

"We'll be horrified at how easily we allowed our personal information to be seen by others," he said.



Internet

What ever happened to... Michael J. Fox



by Hunter Gavin

He was a teenage star with strong family ties. He has traveled into history, and back to the future again. He was the Deputy Mayor of New York. Call him Alex Keaton, Marty McFly, or Mike Flaherty, but just don't call him a chicken. He is Michael J. Fox, the Emmy Award-winning Canadian actor who struck it big south of the border.

Born in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1961, Michael Andrew Fox moved around the country with his family - his father was in the Canadian Armed Forces - before finally settling in Vancouver in 1971. He had been bitten by the acting bug, and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 18 to find work. But success didn't come easy for Fox, who struggled to get by before successfully auditioning for the role of Alex P. Keaton on the hit TV show "Family Ties."

He followed this success with the "Back to the Future" trilogy, playing 80s teenager Marty McFly, and roles in movies such as "Teen Wolf" and "For Love or Money."

While working on the popular sitcom "Spin City" in 1998, Fox announced that he had Parkinson's disease, which he had been diagnosed with in 1991. In 2000, the disease forced him to step away from his role on the show. Since

then, Fox has become a public advocate for Parkinson's disease research, especially stem cell research. Many in the scientific community believe stem cell research could one day aid those with Parkinson's and other debilitating illnesses.

His foundation, The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, established in 2000, was created to help advance this research by funding the development of a cure for Parkinson's disease by 2010 through an aggressively funded research agenda. Team Fox for Parkinson's Research is the grassroots community project of The Michael J. Fox Foundation, which allows people to turn their next special event, with an emphasis on athletic events, into an opportunity to support The Michael J. Fox Foundation. Fox has also made appearances on the campaign trail for both Republicans and Democrats, as well as in the popular media, advocating federal funding for stem cell research. His presence has faded as of late, and Fox has not been in the news since 2004. He didn't disappear in a flying Delorean, however, and his strong views have not waned.

In late October, 2006, Michael J. Fox appeared in television campaign commercials for Claire McCaskill, the Democratic Senate candidate for Missouri; in Wisconsin, supporting Democrat Jim Doyle; and in Maryland, endorsing Democratic candidate Ben Cardin. In the ads, Fox talks directly to the camera. The same boyish face, now on a body that sways uncontrollably.

"They say all politics is local," says Fox in the ads, "but it's not always the case. What you do in [this state] matters to millions of Americans -

Americans like me." The backlash from the commercials has been immense. Advertisements featuring numerous celebrities speaking out against Fox and stem cell research have been aired in response. Some have questioned his potential political objectives. No response has been as grotesque, as ignorant, as that of Conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh. Limbaugh has claimed that Fox was "selling" his Parkinson's, that he was "really shameless," and that during the ads he was "either off his medication or acting." Limbaugh also told his listeners that Fox was "exaggerating the effects of the disease... He's moving all around and shaking, and it's purely an act."

Fox responded diplomatically to Limbaugh's comments. He did not take shots, but instead sounded very understanding. "It's hard for people, and I understand this, to go for people who don't have Parkinson's or don't know about Parkinson's to understand the symptoms and the way they work and the way the medication works... you get what you get on any given day," said Fox.

Elaine Richman, a neuroscientist and co-author of "Parkinson's Disease and the Family," publicly defended Fox, stating that "anyone who knows the disease well would regard his movement as classic severe Parkinson's disease. Any other interpretation is misinformed."

Contrary to reports that have since surfaced through major media outlets, Limbaugh has not offered any sort of an apology to Fox for his comments. Fox, meanwhile, has continued his perseverance in supporting stem cell research. It seems the little guy may be the bigger man.

Society profile: Business

by Laura Noseworthy, VP
Internal Affairs

The UNB Business Society is one of the campus' most active student societies. Located in the hub of Singer Hall (SH 272), our office is a welcoming little spot where members drop by to chat, sign up for our events and grab a free cup of java to go.

Our members pay a small fee of \$10 to be part of the Business Society, with such inclusive perks as an exam bank, discounts on events, and a free locker, to name a few. We hold both social and academic events, and this year we made it our mandate to put more effort into the latter. We are holding a Career Forum of UNB BBA

Alumni on Wednesday, November 1, at 2:30 p.m. in Tilley 303. This will be a great chance for current business students to ask questions, hear success stories, and build their network.

We are also in the works of planning a Business Week, to be held in the winter term - stay tuned for details. And we can't forget about the conferences; each year we send our students on conferences across the country, to apply their skills and network with future business leaders and current CEOs.

While we value our academic and networking events, the Business Society is also known for our shindigs. We had a Boat Cruise on the Carleton Riverboat in September, and one of our famous 'Mystery Bus Tours' just went down this past weekend

in the Miramichi.

Our executive is made up of the following positions: President Kim Noiles, VP Finance Rylan Melles, VP Operations Chantal Savoie, VP Internal Affairs Laura Noseworthy, and VP External Affairs Kris Maxwell. Our membership also votes for two 'Year Reps' every year. This year we are pleased to welcome Kristina Dressler (First Year Rep) and Bob Bagnell (Second Year Rep) to our team.

If you are a business student - or even if you're not - and are interested in joining our society, please drop by our office anytime from Monday to Thursday. The total university experience is more than just classes; come find out how to become an even more successful business leader!

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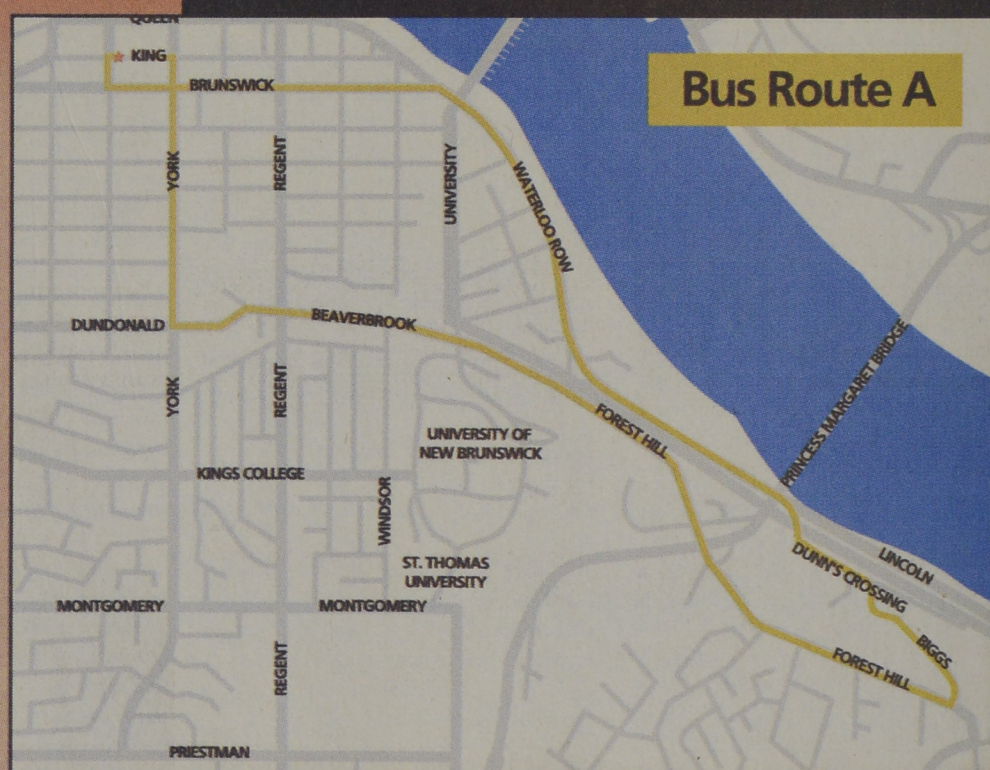
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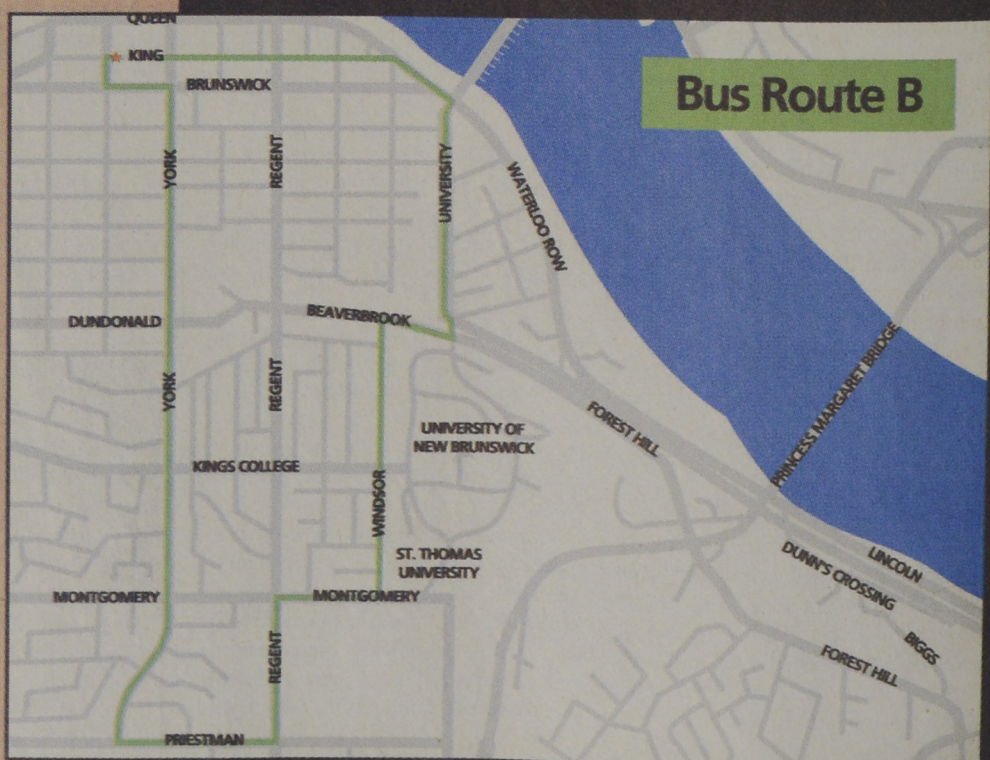
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