



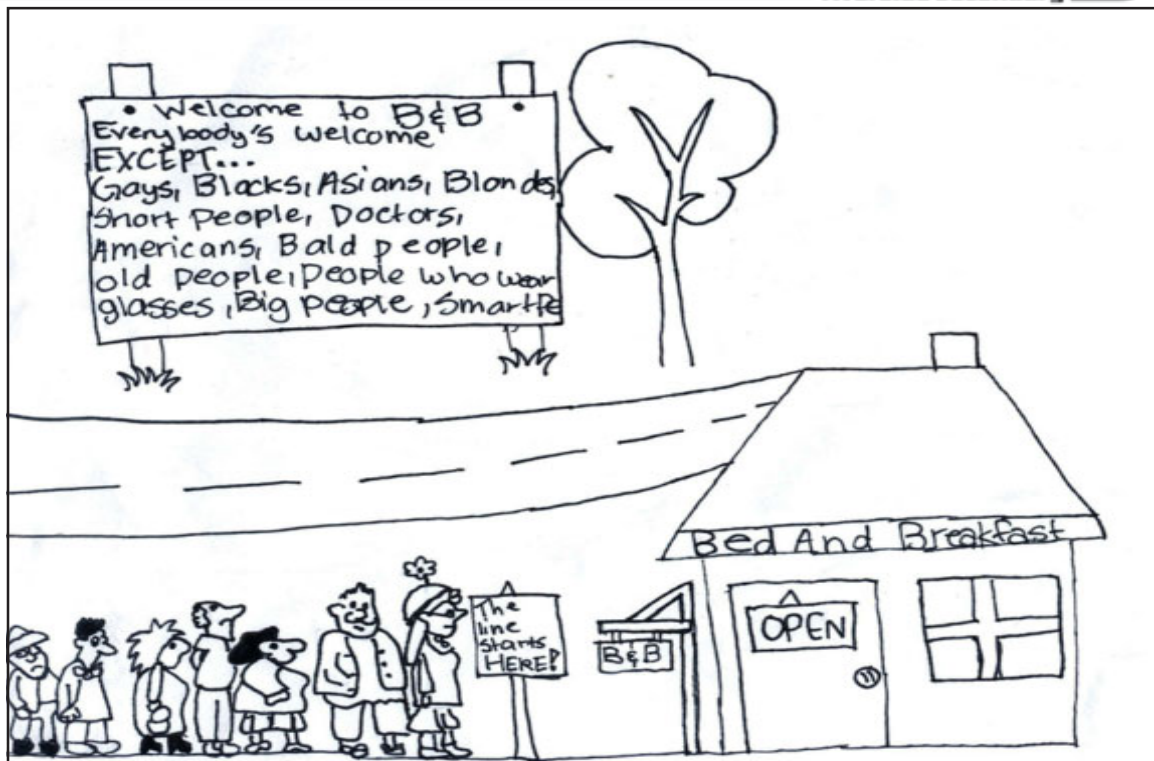
**RIVERSIDE  
GETS INTO THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT!**



Thursday November 10, 2011 - Vol 16 No. 2

# Social change involves more than just holding a sign

Our society faces many problems in the environment, economy, government, law, health, poverty, and education, and many complain about the situation they are placed in within these problems. But while many complain, they seem to take little to no action in finding a solution to these problems. What do they hope to accomplish by sitting back, pointing out at problems and offering no solution? The 'higher powers' won't move unless people take some form of action and yet many choose to stay on the sidelines, as if expecting the problem to solve itself. People should involve themselves more in politics and their own community if they wish to change or resolve the conflicts society is faced with today. How can people contribute themselves to resolve some of the conflicts we face today? One way people can encourage change in politics and community is through voting. Unfortunately, the number of votes in contrast to the number of people in the community seems to be declining. One of the reasons for this is that some individuals view their contribution as insufficient, leading them to believe that their contribution to the matter is meaningless. This is one of the reasons why people choose to sit back and see how things unfold, rather than put an effort to make a change. Regardless of whether they see their contribution as meaningless or not, at the end of the day all votes are counted, so who is to say one's vote is insufficient or not? After all, one vote could be what decides the changes we see tomorrow. Teenagers cannot vote, but we can still try and make an effort to create change or find solutions to the problems we see in our community. Take the **Halloween-For-Hunger** for example; although it can't solve the entire poverty related problem we see in our neighbourhood, it's still a contribution to the cause. Donating to **the Big Brother's Society** or volunteering for the **Share Society** can also be another way for people to involve themselves. Not everything we contribute to society has to be drastic, rather it's the little things we do that makes the changes in our society. Contribution is critical in changing both community and politics, but if people don't actually put the effort in their contribution, then what's the point of taking action? Take some of the supporters in **Occupy Wall Street** for example. Some people post protests stating matters that have absolutely nothing to do with the main focuses and goals of Occupy Wall Street. You can go around holding a sign all you want, but nothing will come about it if you don't take it seriously. Getting involved doesn't just mean camping out, but to actually put an effort to support your cause. Protests are also another way that people can involve themselves in their community. Protests are efficient in grabbing the attention of not only authorities, but also grabbing the attention of potential supporters. It's a form of action that is hard to ignore and a good way to get their point across. Some might claim that protests are just another complaining group standing around in hopes of change. This is not true, getting involved in protests is a direct way to influence change, it pressures and forces higher authorities to take action. Protests don't hope for change, they demand it. So you see, there are numerous ways to involve yourself in your own community. Whether in volunteerism, voting, organisations, or even in protests, getting involved can make a difference. Anybody can sit back and complain, but to initiate change people need to take actions for themselves. Otherwise nothing will change for the good.



## POINT COUNTER POINT

### Couple turned away for being gay



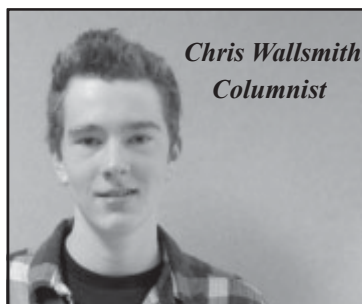
Keely Knutson  
Columnist

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a homosexual couple were turned away from a Bed & Breakfast in Grand Forks, B.C., Canada by the Christian owners Les and Susan Molnar. The couple planned to spend the night, but were rudely turned away by the owners, who stated that they were unwelcome in their home due to the fact that the couple's sexual orientation offended the couple's Christian values. This is a direct act of discrimination against the gay couple Shaun Eadie and Brian

Thomas. Everyone is entitled to their own views; religion and beliefs, but there are no words in the bible that say that gays should be discriminated against. What ever happened to equality? The Charter of Rights and Freedoms are laws no matter your religion it is mandatory that all people should follow these laws and stand by them. As soon as the Molnar's involved religion, people immediately felt pity for them, saying things like: "It's not their fault they're just trying to keep their faith to god." God wouldn't approve of hatred towards innocent people; everyone is supposed to be seen as equals, so why are these men being turned away from a home that is supposedly a business that is open to everyone. To me this is an act of pure hatred and discrimination.

Everyone should be seen and treated as equals no matter their race, sexual orientation, culture or religion. If they're not allowing homosexuals to spend the night, does that mean that African American and Jewish people are going to be turned away as well? The Molnars should not be in this business if they're not comfortable letting everyone into their home. It's a free country; we're supposed to welcome people of all different kinds into our businesses and if they weren't willing to do that then maybe they chose the wrong occupation. The hate mail and the fact that they were sued due to this will keep others from going through this same scenario and other Christian B&B owners from making the same mistake. There's always price to pay when it comes to going against the law.

### Bed & Breakfast has rights too



Chris Wallsmith  
Columnist

On June 18<sup>th</sup> 2009, Shaun Eadie planned to book a room at the Riverbend Bed & Breakfast for himself and his partner, Brian Thomas, in Grand Forks, British Columbia. They were denied service because they are a gay couple. Grand Forks is a small town in the interior of British Columbia, where the majority of people are extremely religious, and many believe the owners were right to follow through with their religious beliefs.

The gay couple sent a complaint to the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal about the Bed & Breakfast. A hearing took place, and the gay couple won the dispute with Mr. & Mrs. Molnar in court, the owners of the Bed & Breakfast. But the right of religious freedom is just as important as the right of freedom of sexual orientation, and the owners have the choice of who and who not to let into their Bed & Breakfast. If they don't want to let a gay couple sleep in the same room or same bed in their home, then they should have the right tell them that they can't stay. Some people may think that this is violating the Human Rights of the couple by denying them the right to stay at the Bed & Breakfast, but to allow them to stay would be

violating Mr. & Mrs. Molnar's religious beliefs. What the Molnars did may not be legally or politically correct, but they believe their choice was morally correct. People don't have to associate with gay people if they don't want to, and this is what Mr. and Mrs. Molnar did; they did not want a gay couple staying in their home under their Christian values. One right does not undermine the other, but the Bed & Breakfast owners should be able to choose who to allow into their home. The gay couple does have rights, but the Molnars also have the right of religious freedom, which allows them to decide who not to let in their home. It is unfortunate that this couple had to close their business, due to their decision.



The Eddy has been the independent voice of the students of Riverside Secondary since 1996 and is produced monthly by the Journalism class.

Journalistic styles and standards conform to those of the Canadian Press. The Eddy welcomes letters to the editor. Letters, however transmitted, must be signed and free of libel.

Additional articles, writing, and opinion pieces are accepted and will be published as space allows.

The Eddy reserves the right to edit all submitted material for brevity, and style. Advertisers can reach the Eddy at [eddy@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:eddy@sd43.bc.ca) or by contacting Riverside

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# Riverside field hockey scores for The Cure

Sophia Wall- staff reporter

Last fall, at the Second Annual Game for The Cure, Riverside's Senior Girls Field Hockey Team raised the most money to support the BC Cancer Foundation. Game for The Cure is an event where two "Select All-stars" are chosen from each high school's field hockey team in School District 43 and the North Fraser Region. These "Select All-stars" form a team to play against the Tri-City Eagles Senior Woman's Field Hockey Team competing to raise the most money for the BC Cancer Foundation. All of the money that is raised is done by online donations at the BC Cancer Foundation website and at the admission for the game. The eight high school teams' goal is to raise a total of \$3,000. The school that

raises the most money wins a practice that is run by The Canadian Woman's Field Hockey Team. Riverside raised the most money last year so they won the practice with the Woman's Field Hockey Team that will take place in early November. "It's really great that we won this practice because it will help the girls that play in a Field Hockey league and



Carly Swan and Emma Hlagi were chosen to play in the Game for the Cure.

it will improve the newer players to the sport," said Mrs. Hudon, the assistant coach of the Field

Hockey team because she is retiring. "Something that I'm going to miss most is working with

the girls. It's not about the wins; it's mainly that Riverside has some really nice girls on this team and it's a lot different than a regular class." Mrs. Hudon wishes the team luck for next year. For this year's Game for The Cure, the Field Hockey team had a bake sale to raise money. "It's really great to raise all this money for a worthy cause," said Heather Poussard, a defender on the Field Hockey team. "The bake sale was a great idea because if we raise the most money again, we'll win another practice with the Canadian Woman's Team. Just imagine how amazing we would be with two consecutive practices with them!" Riverside's two "Select All-stars" that were chosen are Emma Hlagi and Carly Swan. The Third Annual Game for The Cure took place on November sixth at Town Center Park in Coquitlam.

Hockey Team. "The Woman's field hockey team will give the girls a good experience because it will be unique coaching and they will be good role models." This is Mrs. Hudon's eighth and last year of coaching the Field Hockey team because she is retiring. "Something that I'm going to miss most is working with

# Halloween for Hunger: trick or donate

Kristyn De Cicco -staff reporter

Last year more than 182,825 youth across Canada went out collecting cans donating up to 609,225.4 pounds of food to local food banks, feeding up to 199 families. Also, in 2010, 867,948 Canadians went to their local food banks in need of food. The group Free the Children has many different causes, one is Halloween for Hunger. Free the Children was created by a twelve year old Craig Kielburger in 1995. Kielburger was reading through the Toronto Star newspaper before school when he read an article about the murder of 12-year-old Pakistani Iqbal

Masih, who had just spoken out against child labor. Free the Children started off demanding action against child labour. Getting noticed by celebrities like Oprah Winfrey helped the charity gain more public attention. Riverside gets involved with Halloween for Hunger every year. Halloween for Hunger is for families in our communities that may not have enough money to buy food for their families due to the high cost of living. Every year on October 31, kids throughout North America go out on a route collecting non-perishable food items and bring them into school or a local food bank instead of stocking



K. De Cicco/ The Eddy

Students that participated in Halloween for Hunger collected 6,600 pounds of food for Share Food Bank.

up on candy. Riverside's leadership students have collected cans from what they or other students had brought into the school. On Halloween night two to four kids were assigned a route going house to house collecting non-perishable food items, taking them about two hours. Though only leadership students have assigned routes, stu-

dents on their own time have signed up to have their own route with a friend. "It's a great way to get out with friends and do something to help people in our community," said leadership student Kayla Ford. Riverside's leadership students have put in a lot of time into this cause collecting 6,600 pounds of food, that was

delivered to SHARE. SHARE is a community organization that helps people in need in the Tri-City areas; most of the charitable work that Riverside does is in conjunction with SHARE. Each year the participation for collecting food increases and we hope to see more participants for next year!



# Knitting club gives back to community



The Knitting Club shows off their scarves that will be donated to the Foursquare church.

Courtesy of Ms. Teri Bates

Brooklynne Clark -staff reporter

The members of the knitting club have been knitting like crazy for the past month. There are 20 members and a lot of them knew how to knit before they joined, and the others are picking it up very quickly. Though the purpose of the club is to teach students how to knit, it's also more importantly a chance for the members to give back to the community. Some of the reasons as

to why the knitting club is so popular are because the members find it very relaxing and a good way to escape their stress. Ms. Selden, the teacher that runs the club likes being able to meet students that haven't been in any of her classes and she loves to be able to teach people how to knit because it seems to be a "lost art." One thing that would make the knitting club better: "I would love to have some boys join! Most boys won't join because they think knitting is more of a girl's activity." They're knitting mostly scarves, but some of the more advanced people are making hats. Everything they make, they will give to the Foursquare Church,

who will then give the items to homeless people around Vancouver. They are trying to make as many scarves as they can before Christmas, when they will be giving the items away. "I really enjoy knitting and it feels awesome to be able to help people out," said Xenia Simpson, another member of the club. "What I like is that it has two aspects. It has the learning and art form, and it also has the aspect of being able to give back to the community. "They get a chance to think of others and lots of love goes into things made by hand," said Selden. If anyone would like to join the knitting club, go to room 107 on Tuesdays.



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# Down by the Riverside



## What is the significance of your tattoo?



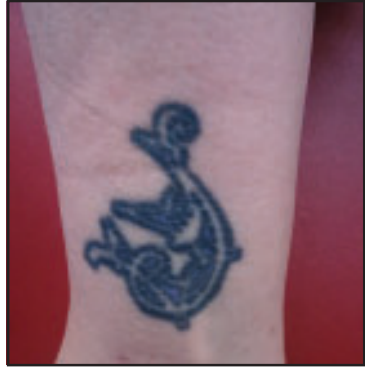
**Lori Leonard - Teacher**

The reason I decided to get the tattoo on my back is because I had five serious back injuries and they cause me pain a lot of the time. I wanted something back there that would help me deal with the pain. The hummingbird represents hope, grace and beauty, and when my back hurts I look at it and it helps me deal with it.



**Deanna Jacobs - Grade 12**

My tattoo is a picture of a bell my grandmother gave me when I was really little; I added the flowers around and on the bell because I really liked the floral pattern, and it just tied together the whole family thing. It just represents everything I wish and hope to become.



**Janice Schmidt - Teacher**

I got my tattoo because I love jewellery and accessories and because I'm an artsy person. I wanted something personal and permanent on my body. Alphonse Mucha, a Czech Art Nouveau artist, inspired me with his art nouveau and curly, flowy art. It's also shaped like a "J" for Janice, and it looks like an anchor to remind me to stay grounded.



**Tagen Mullen - Grade 12**

I got my tattoo because it's a memorial piece for my friend who passed away a while ago. He was very special to me and I felt that I owed it to him in a way. For me, my tattoo means that he will always be close to me and now he'll be part of me forever.



**Sahar Sharelo - Grade 12**

My tattoo is Mom the most important person in my life, and I wanted something permanent to keep with me. Because sometimes your mother isn't always with you, so this is a reminder that my mom is always with me no matter where she is. What my tattoo means to me is pretty much family keeping them close to me.

# Tattoos on teens becoming mainstream

**Meghan Shewchuk - staff reporter**

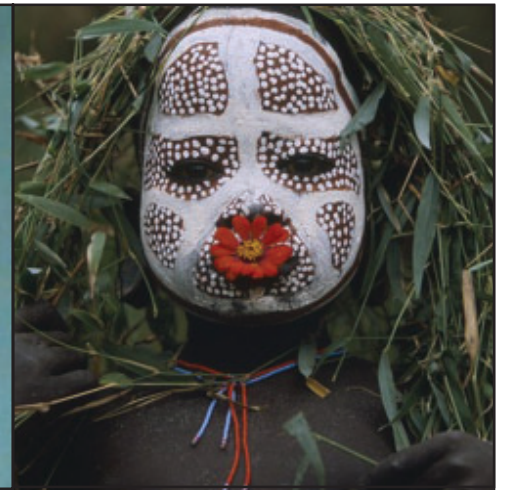
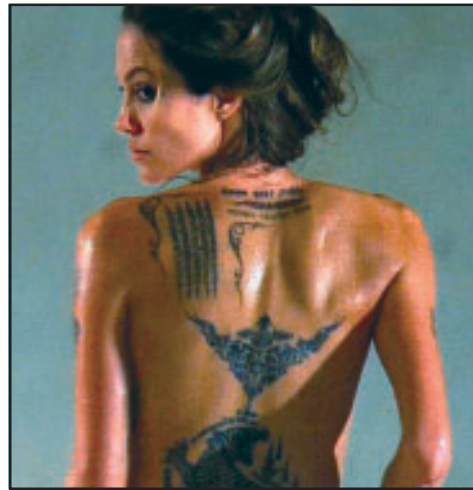
Today body art is a way for people to express their personality, a way to get over loss of death, a way to maintain their culture or just something cool to do. Tattoos have a long history in other cultures, such as Ethiopia, Africa and the First Nations. For Ethiopian people body art, such as tattoos, piercings, and stretching of body parts, is a sign of beauty, but now tattooing and piercing have become more mainstream. For teenagers and young adults, it's becoming a new way to express feelings or just something to do. People want to put something on their bodies to have something to remember later in life, a reminder, or a healing symbol. Sometimes it's just because someone has a great passion for something that he/she gets a tattoo. Some shows such as LA Ink and Miami Ink are becoming more and more popular. People are starting to idolize the main characters of these shows and are adding more art onto

their bodies as well as piercings. Some fly directly to LA or Miami just to get body art done by these professionals.

Similar to Ethiopian people and their idea of ideal beauty, the media tells us to be pretty or handsome, and body art is becoming one of those new trends to make people look beautiful. But do teenagers know the dangers and consequences of getting a tattoo or piercings in unusual spots of your body. Does this need for new forms of beauty have a negative effect on young people? Some tattoo artists are not reputable; the needle might not have been replaced or sterilized properly which can increase the chance of Hepatitis C and B, HIV, allergic reactions and infections. If people do the piercing themselves on their body, it can cause foreign body rejection, causing a severe infection. For young adults, body art seems to be acceptable to get, but parents may have a different opinion. Some parents may be concerned with their kids getting body art because of how young they are. As people age they might regret it later

in life because the idea may have not been thought through. Tattoos seem to be a bigger concern for parents as opposed to piercing because tattoos are permanent and piercings can grow in over time. In the work place, it's becoming less of a problem to have a tattoo. Most employers are looking more for a person's ability rather than what they look

like. Now a days if someone has a tattoo those employers don't want to be seen, they simply ask them to put a piece of tape or a band around the tattoo. Body art has been around for a long time, and it will probably never go away. People want to express themselves in their own way and body art is a way to do that.



Courtesy of Google

The photos above compare mainstream tattoos to cultural body art.

# Multicultural leadership dances into a new year

**Kristin Macey - staff reporter**

**Ms. Catherine Yamamoto** hosted the annual ESL welcome dinner for International students and their families on October 5, 2011. Yamamoto said the main goal of the dinner is to introduce ESL students to Canada's customs, such as turkey with stuffing and gravy. "This is our way of welcoming all the students and

their families to Riverside; we are hoping to make a positive impression on them," said Yamamoto, "so that they understand they are always welcome here." Events for the evening included performances by the multi-cultural class, and a junior Glee club, who performed a couple of songs. The guest list included not only the ESL students

and their families but **Mayor Greg Moore, Sherri Carroll**, city council member, **Michael Wright** city council member; and **Glen Pollock** also a city council member, "The students were saying that their families were all so happy to come, and speak some English" said Yamamoto, "and I think that is what it's really about coming to another country and making friends, but also sharing parts of your culture" One of Yamamoto's students, while she was explaining a turkey dinner, said that in Ecuador his family had a pet turkey, and it used to chase them around the yard. Yamamoto said she was very pleased with the way the evening turned out. A new addition this year is the multicultural dance group. They contribute by performing at events such as the

welcome dinner and for the Japanese students that visited Riverside. They practice after school on Tuesdays and you don't need to be a student in the multicultural leadership class to participate in the dance group. Coming up is the fourth annual night market, featuring games, inexpensive items to buy, and all kinds of foods from various

countries, such as Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, Japan, and France. They will also have performances, fortune tellers, and door prizes. Next semester they are organizing a new years festival. They are going to feature 1-2 different cultures per day. "I started it as a way to help new international students feel welcome at Riverside" said Yamamoto.



Courtesy of Ms. Yamamoto

Multicultural leadership students: Winnie He, Tracy Lim, Jenny Kim



Courtesy Ms. Yamamoto

Mayor Greg Moore, city council members and Mr. Ciolfitto



# What exactly is Occupy Wall Street?



Courtesy of Google

“Occupy” activists march through New York.

Farnaz Masoodi  
-staff reporter

It has consumed social networking websites, blogs, news media, and the streets of over 900 cities worldwide, but *what* is “Occupy Wall Street”? It may seem like a simple question, but a quick Google search of “Occupy Wall Street” will produce millions of hits from journalists and bloggers alike, but it can be overwhelming to sort through the assortment of links and find an

article that actually explains *what* it is. The movement has become so large that it is basically impossible to ignore, yet it still poses a challenge finding an explanation of it, so here is a break down from the beginning. The now worldwide “Occupy” movement first started in New York’s Zucotti Park, near the financial district of Wall Street on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, by a Canadian activist group called *Adbusters*.

The protesters are condemning economic and social inequality,

corporate greed, and corporate influence on governments. The protesters call themselves the 99%, and are standing up against the 1% that carries a majority of the wealth in the United States. The protesters are angry about the alarming variance of the distribution of wealth and want to hold big corporations accountable. Wall Street was chosen as the spot for the initial protests because it is home to the world’s largest stock exchange and represents America’s financial districts as a whole, making it symbolic to protesters. In other cities, protesters demonstrate in the financial districts of their own cities, like Bay Street in Toronto. In Vancouver, they demonstrate at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The movement is intentionally leaderless and does not necessarily have a clear-cut list of demands. Rather they are protesting to raise awareness to the government of their discontent by using the Arab Spring tactic, which refers to protests in the Arab world that use

civil resistance, demonstrations and social networking. Much of the “Occupy” movement has spread due to social networking, with cities holding their own versions of “Occupy” protests. Generally, the majority of cities carry the same groundwork of discontent, with the economy and disparity of wealth being major issues. While there has been much criticism by the media for the demonstrations, there has been an outpouring of support by celebrities and intellectuals such

as Susan Sarandon, Alec Baldwin, Rufus Wainwright, Noam Chomsky, and Michael Moore. The “Occupy” movement is a contentious subject with many different sides to the story, and with such a convoluted of concerns, it can be difficult to keep track of why and what the root of the issue is. With the movement being so immersed in the internet-era, there will be no shortage of information to allow confused readers some clarity. The rest will be in the history books.



Courtesy of Google

Occupy Wall Street protesters sleep in New York.

# City to shut down Occupy Vancouver

Kieran Rupert  
-staff reporter

For the fourth consecutive week, Occupy Vancouver activists continue to protest on the lawn of the Vancouver Art Gallery. The demonstration started as just another “Occupy” protest, like those in cities all across North America and Europe. When it hit downtown on October 15<sup>th</sup>, almost 4000 people went in support of the movement, with several camping overnight. But since then, more and more occupiers have begun staying overnight, with tents now consuming half of the Art Gallery’s lawn.

Min Reyes, one of the founders of Occupy Vancouver, has publicly distanced herself from the protest, writing in an open letter: “We have forgotten the very essence of why we gathered together.” Reyes believes that Occupy Vancouver has become less demonstration than camp site and proposed a more organized “strategic remodeling” of

all Canadian “Occupy” protests.

The demonstration downtown had become a central issue for the 2011 Vancouver mayoral candidates and, prior to Saturday, Mayor Gregory Robertson planned to let them protest. However, Mayor Robertson changed his tune following death of a young woman at the site of an apparent drug overdose. This was the second drug-related incident at Occupy Vancouver, after a young man nearly died of a narcotics overdose.

“This is the second critical incident in the last two days,” Robertson said. “There has been progress made over the last day-and-a-half, but not enough.”

The city has given the protesters notice to pack up the tents and leave the camp, but as protester and professor Steve Collis says, they will not go without a fight. “People aren’t going to pack up and go. We are going to keep doing what we’re doing,” said Collis. “We’re not leaving.”



Courtesy of Google

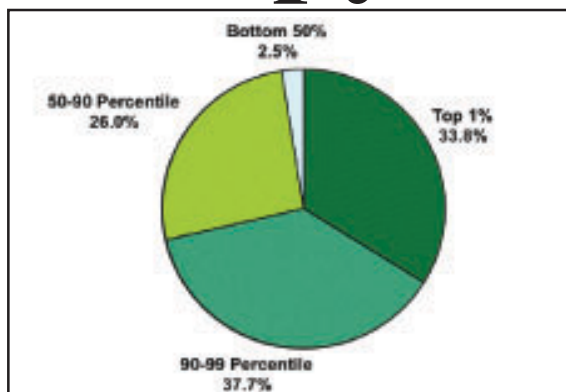
Occupy Vancouver activists protest at the Vancouver Art Gallery during the demonstration’s first week.

# Is the Occupy movement justified?

Kieran Rupert - staff reporter

The Occupy Wall Street movement has been gaining momentum and spreading all across the globe. This begs the question: Are these protests justified?

There is no question about it; the extraordinarily uneven distribution of wealth in the United States and the world is a growing concern for the majority of citizens, and though the situation here is better, there is a problem in Canada as well. In the US, the top tenth of the population possesses over 70% of the wealth and Canada is 35<sup>th</sup> in income equality worldwide, while the United States is 93<sup>rd</sup>.



Courtesy of Google

The distribution of wealth in the United States in 2007.

In the US, this is not going to improve as long as the unemployment rate is at 9% (it is at 7% in Canada) and CEOs are, on

average, paid approximately 350 times as much as the average worker.

While most seem to agree that there is a problem and that something should be done about it, some would argue that the protestors are not going about it the right way. They criticize the “Occupy” protests for not having any clear direction, because, while they have been fairly productive when it comes to making witty signs, the protestors have not made any concrete demands in the month and a half they have been protesting to date.

Some would argue that that the protestors in New York should not be on Wall Street at all. They should be in Washington because Wall Street is not at fault for the economic problems of the poor, the government is. The corporations are not responsible for the welfare of the

people. Their sole purpose and objective is to make money. The government is supposed to represent the population and hold corporations accountable. Instead, the government have been bailing out large banks and automotive companies and providing tax cuts for the rich. Many journalists say that the protestors need to lay the blame with the politicians who bend the truth in order to justify their perpetuation of massive bail-outs and, ultimately, inflation. But this can be countered with the notion that governments kowtow to the corporations.

Ultimately, whether or not the protestors are voicing their opinions in the right way or directing their anger towards the right people, the “Occupy” movement has been able to bring attention to the growing inequality in the Western world.



# Election time again for municipalities

Spencer Kowalski -  
staff reporter

Municipal elections are described as an election for a town or city for its governing body. The municipal elections are the best way to make changes in the community, many of people seem to be unaware of how much of a difference voting for your local candidate of choice can make. Municipal elections never surpass a fifty percent voter turnout. Each mayor may want different things for each issue that is put before them and a lot of people don't realize that the municipal elections affect a person's day to day living on a level that is comparable with the federal election. As posted on Twitter "Municipal Elections seem to be the forgotten step child of elections."



courtesy of Google

Patrick Alambets, William Issa and Greg Moore: this year's Port Coquitlam mayoral candidates

The government is considering new ways for the public to vote, such as online voting, which might go some ways towards solving the problem. As for the municipal election on November 19<sup>th</sup>, Port

Coquitlam has three candidates running for mayor. Running for re-election is **Greg Moore**, and for the new candidates we have **William Issa** and **Patrick Alambets**. Moore has openly said

that he wants to strengthen the local economy, improve public transport, build environmental leadership, enhance public safety and foster a stronger community. Issa said that he wants to improve

public transport, put a cap on taxes and reduce taxes, improve policing and the environment, and support small businesses. At the time of this article's publication, Alambets hasn't released any kind of political platform, though he did state in his profile on the Port Coquitlam website: "There is no city government in Port Coquitlam, The mayor and counsellors are content to take their pay and not govern." Which is a bold statement that shows his interest in where tax dollars go, and his interest in making sure that they go to good use. To those who don't know, Municipal candidates don't represent any sort of political party in that they are all independents. The municipal elections are the best way to change things in your local community and the community needs to have full awareness of that.

# Student council to host candidates' debate

Joanne Lau-  
staff reporter

On November 9<sup>th</sup> 2011, in Riverside's cafeteria, the student council will be hosting a debate for the municipal election that's will be happening on November 19 2011. Student council member, **Sebastian Zein** discussed the two main goals for this debate. According to Zein the first is to "intellectually challenge the candidates, separating the people who are running for the egotistical purposes from those who genuinely have the leadership capabilities and knowledge to serve on council. In this sense, by generating our own set of questions that are different from the typical ones brandied about at these debates, we are



Port Coquitlam City Hall, where the winners of the municipal elections will work. Courtesy of Google

providing the community at large with a valuable service."

The second purpose is to

engage more youth in municipal politics. Only 1-in-5 Port Coquitlam residents voted in the

last municipal election, and the number is certainly even lower for young people who recently become eligible to vote. Ideally the student council would have held the debate during school hours, but unlike last year, nobody in the school is of voting age yet. However the student council promised that any students at

Riverside that choose to attend by their own volition will be rewarded with an enriching

experience.

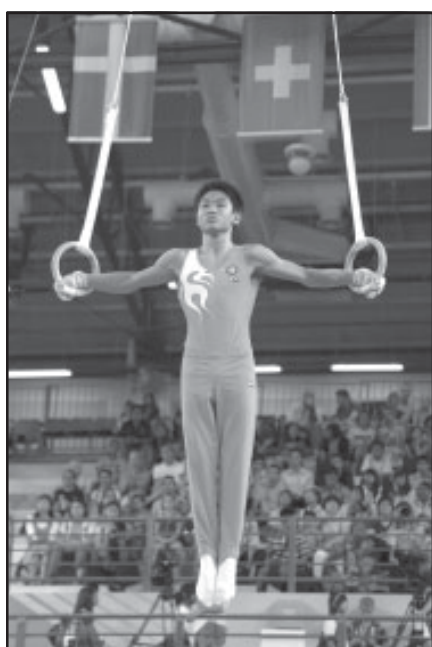
The student council will be asking all sorts of questions; from commercial-to-residential property tax ratios, to the development of downtown (build lots of building to house people, of living spaces, etc.), to saving bears, to a potential merger with Coquitlam. "The student council tried thinking of topics that wouldn't give the candidates an opportunity to spout-off some pre-prepared populist speech," said Zein.

The student council advisor, Mr. **Ben Lepore** added that. "Most people in our community don't care about the municipal elections because they are so small," but went to add that they are important because they affect daily living issues.

# Olympian in the making

Robert Klimowicz-  
staff reporter

Riverside's own **Robert Watson** is making a name for himself in the world of Gymnastics. He has been all over the world competing and practicing gymnastics at the highest possible level. "At first I didn't really have a choice to join gymnastics; my parents made me join despite me not wanting to," Watson said, "I haven't regretted it since; I love the sport; it is awesome meeting people from all over the world in the numerous competitions I compete in." Watson was the only Canadian male gymnast to compete in the 2010 Singapore Youth Olympics. "Competing in the Youth Olympics is an experience I will remember for the rest of my life." Watson won the 2009 and 2010 Owen Walstrom Outstanding Athlete of the Year (Gymnastics



Courtesy of Robert Watson

Riverside's Robert Watson on the rings

BC). Watson has been a part of team since 2004 and is now a part of the Canadian senior gymnastic

team. Watson has been coached by **Ferenc Szabo** for the past four years. "I couldn't have asked for a better coach; he never doubts me and always pushes me to the max." Watson's high bar routine includes a triple-twisting double layout dismount which is only performed by a very few of the world's top gymnasts. Watson favorite part of gymnastics is all the travelling he gets to do. In 2010 alone, he travelled to England, India, Singapore, Mexico, Quebec, Ontario, Germany, United States and Australia for training camps and competitions.

Watson has strong hopes of being in the Olympics one day. "I believe I'm good enough," said Watson.

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# Riverside Presents: An Evening of the Short Shorts

Sophia Wall - staff reporter

On November 24th-26th, Riversides Acting 11 class will present an *Evening of the Short Shorts*.

The first act will have four shows that are ten minutes or less with actors from grade 9-12. The second act will be *The Liars at the Bollux* that will be put on by the acting 11 and 12 classes. *The Liars at the Bollux* is a Rock 'n Roll melo-drama that takes place in an East Vancouver rock bar where in one evening, the worlds of several exaggerated characters come together.

"It's one evening of five great plays for five dollars," said Ms. Roberge, the acting teacher; "Liars at the Bollux is hilarious and funny." Heather Corbould, an acting 12 student said that acting is really fun and they feel the need of not only doing a



From L to R: Darion Simmons, Heather Corbould, Paul Wiebe and Tyler Dorian rehearsing for the Short Shorts - *Slop Culture*.

K.Shong/The Eddy

musical in the spring, but a show in the fall to help build up an audience. "I love acting and I want to act as much as I can," said

Paul Wiebe, a student taking part in the *Evening of The Short Shorts*, "Why wait for the musical when I can act in the fall?" The

Evening of The Short Shorts will take place on November 24th-26th at 7:30 pm and it will cost \$5 at the door.

# 50/50 sheds a different light on cancer

Bayley Bird - staff reporter

Most of us come into this world living a fairly normal life, but for the 41% of us who are diagnosed with cancer, the lifestyle is different. In *50/50*, the main character Adam (played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is diagnosed with spinal cancer at age 27 after deciding to see a doctor due to his back pains. His best friend, Kyle (Seth Rogen) helps Adam fight through the pain and struggle as he battles the cancer.

Adam's girlfriend, Rachael, (Bryce Dallas Howard) can't take the pressure of mothering him through all the treatments, and Adam finds out she is having an affair behind his back. Heartbroken, Kyle takes Adam out to the club to get his mind off of her. To the boys' advantage, they use Adam's cancer as a sympathy seeking pickup line on girls.

Adam starts to see an inexperienced psychologist named Katie McCay (Anna Kendrick), who tries to help him with his problems. Later, she offers him a ride home at which time he realizes he's starting to develop feelings for her. *50/50* is a very new, but entertaining look on people struggling with cancer. It used to be that when someone was diagnosed with cancer it was a death sentence, but now with all the new technology and science, people have a 50/ 50 chance of surviving.

It is a comedy and a drama all wrapped into one, which showcased both the bright side and a dark side to a tragic event. It was a very unique movie that had many laughs, brought many tears, but also came with extreme excitement. You are almost guaranteed to leave the theatre in either stitches or in tears.



Courtesy of Google

Actors Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Seth Rogen in *50/50*.

# Rap's new feel

David Terzis -staff reporter

For the last decade the Rap artists in the genre have not changed. From Jay-Z, 50 cent, Eminem to Ludacris, they have come out with new singles and controlled the iTunes rap genre. Many people feel that Rap in the 2000's was too loud and violent and was mainly criticized for being degrading towards women. A change in the wind is on its way though, and people who do not approve of the angry explicit Rap genre can take a breath as a new wave of rap is on its way. The revitalized Rap genre instead of being angry and explicit can now be seen as more laid back and in some ways relaxing. New rappers have toned down the violence and have more of a "tranquillo" feel. Young Rappers like KiD CuDi and Wiz Khalifa specialize in this retrospect with songs like "Mr. Rager" and "The Race". However Rap music of 2011 has developed its own criticism for lyrics predicated on marijuana. Some may feel this is a step up from violence but some surprisingly disagree. Parents believe that if their kids look up to people who do drugs, their kids are more likely to do drugs. For instance, if you hear your favourite rapper talking about a certain drug you may be inclined to try it, but if your favourite rapper is talking about murder you aren't likely to go kill people, making drugs more of a concern in Rap music than violence. It seems the Rap genre cannot please the sceptics. Whether this new breed of Rap is here to stay is uncertain, however it seems to be increasingly popular among youth.



K.Torn/The Eddy

Stephanie Sonea, Megan Sigsworth and Karin Torn present...

# POTSHOTS

TOUGH TALK FOR A TOUGH WORLD



S.Sonea/The Eddy

## Bad spelling

Has spelling become worse over the past couple of generations? Or has the public eye just become more critical, looking for problems with how things are done these days? I don't think it's the second scenario...I think spelling has definitely become worse in the past couple of generations, and here's why; in my opinion social networking and overuse of technology plays a huge part. People have become so used to shortening words to send texts or online messaging faster and easier, that they have forgotten what a real word looks like. Another issue is constantly having spell check fix every word typed on a computer. Even when we're forced to write real words, it doesn't matter how we spell it because the computer will automatically correct it. Bad spelling may not seem like a big deal, but it drives most people crazy when people can't spell! Just get it together and SPEL IT WRITE!

## No more eye candy

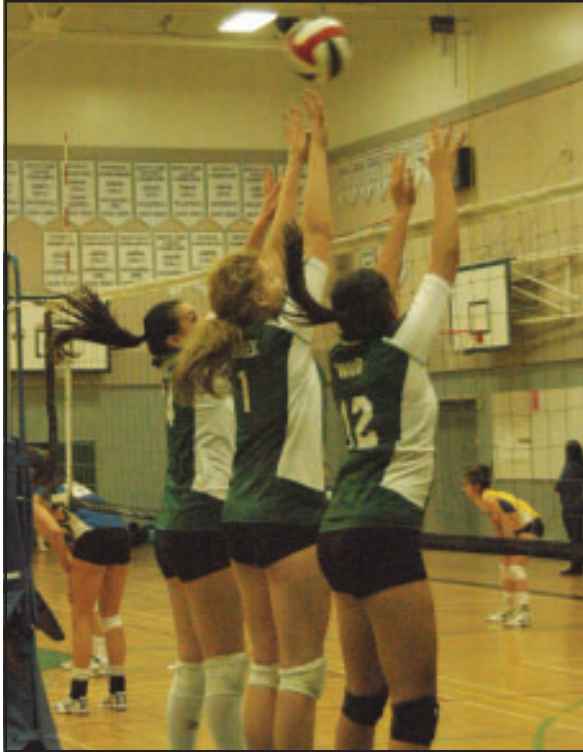
What happened to the days of when Halloween was for dressing up as your favourite Disney princess, your favourite Transformer, or just being the scariest kid on the block? Ever since our generation has hit high school, girls have started to dress more promiscuous, and the boys have just become silly on their costume choices. What's wrong with dressing up as an Avatar or simple things, like a banana? But no, we have decided to dress up as a "bunny", which of course has a little piece of material covering up their important parts, bunny ears, and of course, a little bunny tail. What has this society come to? What kind of image are we giving to the little kids trick or treating? Yes, Halloween is a time where you can dress up, but it doesn't give you an excuse to look like your trying to get picked up off of a street corner. So kids, when you're picking up your next Halloween costume, just stick to the good ole basics.

## Honesty kills

Formspring. It's a site where you take your jealousy out on others anonymously to make yourself feel better. Some people love Formspring, but many think it's a waste of time. The fact is Formspring is used to bully others. What is hard to understand is why people feel the need to write hurtful comments to others. People need to grow up and figure out that there are more important things in life other than your social status. People who use Formspring anonymously are annoying and waste their time when they could be doing something better. Just because you think you send it out into cyberspace and you don't actually say it to the person doesn't mean that they don't feel it any less. It is a sad thing when people need to say these things to others just to feel better. So next time, before you send someone something rude online on any site, think, because you never know, next time it could be you.



# Girls volleyball surges to victory in Red Serge



K.Shong/The Eddy

Katie Woo, Laura Penell and Mallory Sall set up to block an opposition spike.



Red Serge Champs! (left) and Rapids celebrating a point (right).



K.Shong/The Eddy

Mitch Stewart - staff reporter

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Red Surge Girls Volleyball Tournament was held Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> here at Riverside. The tournament was originally introduced to get more girls interested in joining the RCMP and getting in to that line of work. The tournament has always been a success and seems to grow every year, including the competition which seems to reach a

new high level every year. The tournament has become a big deal for the teams in the running for a championship as well because it is the last chance for these teams to tune up before provincials

Riverside came into the tournament ranked second and looking to meet the number one ranked Kelowna team in a cross-over game or in the finals. Riverside played great in their four

round-robin games and played a great semi-final to meet McMath in the final. The final had very intense play with Riverside coming out on top and winning the final set. After Riverside's big win, the rankings are subject to change, making the Rapids the number one ranked team in the province. Riverside's focus will now be on winning provincials after the big tournament victory.

# Grade 9 girls' volleyball have a bright future ahead

Raof Amini - staff reporter

Riverside has always been a great sport school; one of its strongest aspects is its volleyball program. Many may not know it, but there has been a lot of hype around this year's grade 9 girls' volleyball team. With their season booming on an undefeated record, it seems like their journey to victory is going to be an easy one. Mr. Thies (head coach) believes that his team has a very good chance of winning the provincial championships in their senior year with Mr. Gee as their senior coach. Thies said, "We have 19 girls, 5 of which already play on the junior team; I believe they are well prepared for the upcoming challenges in the years to come." He added, "Every girl brings a different element to the court that helps contribute to the team; we have no "best" player, everyone

has their own focal points." The closest team to being their rival is Charles Best who is the second best team in the district and Riverside being first, of course. They also came third in the Seaquam tournament which is very competitive. With the senior girls being such a power house last year followed by the outstanding accomplishments of the grade 9's this year, it is safe to say that the grade 9 girls are well on their way to carrying the torch of victory. The team goes to district championships next week at Arch Bishop Carney. As the team is undefeated in league play, they have a bye on the first day and play in the semi-finals on Tuesday. Finals are on Wednesday November 16th.



K.Shong/Eddy

Riverside's grade 9 girls volleyball team with coach Mr. Jordan Thies.

# Cross country had a successful run

Jenny Kang - staff reporter

This year's Cross Country team started the season on September 8 and finished on October 26, 2011. This year twenty two students participated. The team practised after school, and they would run for about an hour. At the practices, the team did square running around the field and long distance running at Gates Park. For longer distances, the team did the Colony Farm run. The team went to two big competitions. The first one was the district meet. At the district meet, the junior and senior girls ran 4.7km and the junior boys ran 5.9km. This district meets were on Wednesdays and Riverside placed third overall. There were also some notable individual performances: **Tenika Thue** came third, **Vanessa Gee** placed fourth, **Sara Doncaster** placed sixth and **Riley** placed seventh. The boys had great results too. **Sam Willet** was sixth and **Cameron Jupp** was seventh. The second big competition was the Fraser Valleys. The team placed eleventh overall! "It was



really hard to make up some of

Riverside's Riley Lancaster.

my time for the practices," said **Tenecia Powell**, a grade 9 student who joined this year's Cross Country team. "But it was really fun to go to the Fraser Valley Competition. It was also fun to run and compete against other high schools. I had a great time in the Cross Country team this year and I might think about joining it next year!" said Powell. "I think the students were very dedicated, hardworking and I am very proud of them," said **Ms. Keating**, who coaches the Cross Country team. The team had great devotion, and great results.



The Riverside Cross Country team Courtesy of T.Keating

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