

UVIC COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA MONITORING

Monday, December 18, 2006

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Gordon Smith, global studies, public administration, political science

Victoria centre boycotts Holocaust-denier team

Times Colonist; The Associated Press

Sunday, December 17, 2006

A Victoria research institute will suspend contacts with a leading Iranian think-tank that helped organize last week's conference in Tehran of Holocaust deniers, a Paris-based researcher said yesterday.

The Centre for International Studies is one of nearly 40 North America and European

Heisbourg, chairman of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London and president of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, said the IPIS is a touchstone in Iran for foreign researchers.

The statement describes the IPIS as a "mainstream Iranian interface" with foreign think-tanks.

"Through its complicity with the deniers of the absolute evil that was the Holocaust, IPIS has now forfeited its status as an acceptable partner," according to the statement.

IPIS had the leading role in organizing the Tehran conference, calling for papers, sending invitations, arranging logistics, Heisbourg said. "They convened the meeting and ran the meeting," he said.

Andrew Weaver, earth & ocean science

How we got blasted: Record-ripping winds took rare path

Times Colonist

Judith Lavoie

Saturday, December 16, 2006

Wind gusts at Race Rocks, off the Island's southwest tip, reached a record 158 kilometres an hour as the third intense wind storm in a week plowed a trail of

With the weather gods hitting Vancouver Island with floods, snow and gales, even weather forecasters are starting to get tired, McCarthy said.

"And they love bad weather." **University of Victoria climatologist Andrew Weaver** said conclusions cannot be drawn from the unusual weather.

"Everyone wants to pin every weather event on global warming or El Nino and you can't do that," he said.

Climate is broader than singular weather events, Weaver said.

"But, the fact we got three blasts in a row is pretty annoying and unusual." The forecast gives opportunities for more misery. Snow flurries and rain showers are expected for today. By this evening it should be cloudy with a low of zero and a 60 per cent chance of showers.

Michael J. Prince, human & social development

Fulfilling a promise

A new cancer strategy: New Canada-wide partnership holds great promise for prevention and cures

Special to Times Colonist

Opinion editorial by Michael J. Prince

Monday, December 18, 2006

Amidst the final leg of the Liberal leadership race and the "nation within a nation" debate in Parliament, many Canadians likely missed an important announcement on health-care policy.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced on Nov. 24 the formation of a not-for-profit corporation, the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, to implement the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control (CSCC).

The chairman of the new body is Jeffrey Lozon, president of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and the vice-chairman is to be Simon Sutcliffe, president of the B.C. Cancer Agency.

This announcement was the culmination of extensive work since the late 1990s by literally several hundred associations, professional bodies, research centres, families and cancer survivor groups.

For Canadians, the goals of the CSCC are compelling: To reduce the number of new cases of cancer, to enhance the quality of life of those with cancer, and to lessen the likelihood of people dying from cancer. The incidence of cancer is undeniable -- one in four Canadians will die from the disease.

And the potential for advances are substantial. An estimated 50 per cent of cancers are believed to be preventable by detection, reductions in tobacco consumption, increased active living, and improved healthy eating.

The new cancer strategy resonates with people and reflects that state of knowledge and interventions. A disease-specific approach makes considerable political sense to Canadians as voters and politicians, empirical sense to researchers familiar with disease-based knowledge, and practical sense to Canadians as potential or actual patients, given the general problems everyone has with assessing the health care system as a whole.

The CSCC's priority areas cover the full spectrum of cancer control -- primary prevention, screening and early detection, surveillance, diagnostic and treatment

standards, clinical practice guidelines, health human resources, research and rebalancing the focus of health toward patient-centred care.

Until now, Canada has lacked a national framework on cancer control with co-operative action between governments and among sectors; that is a comprehensive set of actions across the spectrum of cancer control, funded with sustainable public investments. With this announcement, Canada is on the road to joining dozens of other countries with such strategies.

The non-profit corporation being established to oversee implementing the cancer strategy will operate at arms length from the federal government, although it will report each year to the health minister on its activities and results. It is a structure for bringing together key participants in the cancer community to act as a single window on information for providers and patients, and serve as a channel for change in cancer control measures.

The board of directors, as the governing body for the non-profit corporation, will comprise 15 members drawn from cancer stakeholder organizations, provincial cancer agencies, patient family and survivor groups, at least one aboriginal organization and

and territories to learn from each other more quickly and better manage their cancer care challenges.

The promise of the CSCC is profound. It is nothing less than preventing cancer, curing cancer, and increasing the survival rates and quality of life for those who develop cancer, by converting the cumulative knowledge and population-based evidence gained through research, surveillance and evaluation into priority actions that matter the most to the health and well-being of Canadians.

- **Michael J. Prince is the Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy at the University of Victoria.** Prince has written about the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control for the National Cancer Institute of Canada as well as published academic articles on cancer policy.

Jennifer Wise, theatre

Getting off the mommy train

Globe and Mail

ELIZABETH NICKSON

Nobody's Mother:
Life Without Kids
Edited by Lynne Van Luven,
TouchWood Editions,

Childless women have a lot to answer for these days, chiefly the end of Western civilization. And then there are our friends in the Middle East. First thing any (entirely male) Islamist government does is shroud women in heavy fabric, take away tools of trade, books and pens, and set them to breeding more cannon fodder for the holy war.

Some are defiant. **Jennifer Wise, a theatre professor at the University of Victoria,** delivers a bracing proto-Marxist lecture, leaning on Shaw, asking who on Earth would spend their life in the nursery, fussing over babies, instead of doing "more intellectually absorbing and more socially useful things?" The honesty expressed is searing, saddening and, finally, redemptive. From these women, I suspect, we can learn just why motherhood is such a burden (yes, yes, great joy, too), how that might change and, of course, subsequently save Western civilization.

Despite their accomplishments, there is a persistent feeling here of being sidelined, left out of the great major chord story that most

University of Victoria law students

Girls' Little League team fights for same funding as boys' teams

Beacon Hill squad's human rights complaint clears an early hurdle

Vancouver Sun - CanWest News Service

Chantal Eustace

Monday, December 18, 2006

VICTORIA - Members of a girls' softball team, armed with bats, softballs and a human rights complaint, are fighting for the right to play ball on the same financial turf as their male counterparts.

It's a story that sounds more like the movie *League of their Own* than something related to a modern-day athletic program, says Bill Hawkins, 47, who is leading the charge on behalf of his daughter Kelsie's preteen softball team in Victoria.

"I think Little League owes these girls an apology," said Hawkins in a telephone interview with *The Vancouver Sun* on Sunday afternoon.

He said he learned that softball teams were funded differently than baseball teams -- which have predominantly male players -- after his daughter's softball team, Beacon Hill Little League, won the provincial championships last summer.

It was bittersweet, Hawkins said, since they soon learned that transportation costs to attend the national championships in Windsor, Ont. would not be covered by Little League Canada -- while the boy's provincial team did get money for travel.

"It was a bit of a shock," said Hawkins. "With the Gn costs toU2a.y TTw()TjT0.000cf --

alleging it "discriminates against girls playing softball in comparison to boys playing baseball, contrary to s. 8 of the Human Rights Code."

In response, Little League Canada applied to have the complaint dismissed, arguing that it had no "reasonable prospect of success" and that the team waited too long after the provincial championships to file it.

Joe Shea, president of Little League Canada, said in an affidavit there is a major difference between softball and baseball funding "with respect to fees charged for participation in tournaments."

He said that in male-dominated baseball, tournament fees cover travel costs. Little League Canada simply holds "these tournament and hosting fees 'in trust' for the baseball teams" and pays them out as required.

But in a Dec. 11 decision, tribunal member Lindsay M. Lester denied the application to dismiss the claim, finding that a "fuller evidentiary record" would be required to determine the "exact nature of the relevant financial arrangements" and "whether or not Little League Canada has discriminated against girls playing on softball teams."

This is not a home run, Hawkins said. Rather, it means the girls can "take the field" through a tribunal hearing. As far as his daughter Kelsie -- now a 14-year-old pitcher -- is concerned, she just wants things to be fair.

"I want the same amount of funding as the boys get," she said, taking a break from a game of catch. In the meantime, she'll keep on playing ball: "It's a great sport."

This article also appeared in the Times Colonist and the National Post.

University of Victoria's oceans forum

Marine health explored

Saanich News

Dec 15 2006

The **University of Victoria** will welcome some of the world's leading ocean and atmospheric scientists to campus Feb. 20-21 to participate in a two-day forum on the current and future health of the planet's marine environment.

Experts from Canada, Chile, Germany, Scotland and the United States will discuss climate change, aquaculture, ocean acidification, marine "dead zones", offshore resource extraction and the collapse of coastal fisheries.

The forum will also look at how people who live near the sea – or depend on its resources for their livelihood – are being affected by recent changes.

The two-day event is one of an ongoing series of "Forums on Taboo Topics" coordinated by the Royal Society: The Academies (formerly known as the Royal Society of Canada) and universities across the country.

The series was established to investigate controversial national issues and explore various policy options to deal with them.

Only one of the forum's events will be open to the general public.

Dr. Daniel Pauly, the director of UBC's fisheries centre and winner of the 2005 International Cosmos Prize, will speak Feb. 21 on the topic of "mining fish from the sea." Pauly's presentation starts at 7:30 p.m. in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium.

Tickets are free and can be obtained online at www.auditorium.uvic.ca, or by calling 721-8480.

For more information about the forum itself, check the website at www.uvic.ca/research/oceansforum.

The grant would have covered 100 per cent of the project's cost. Causton said the municipality now has to search for new avenues of funding for the bike lanes. "We will have to find more localized funding because there won't be any regional money for the next bit," Causton said.

Oak Bay has received numerous requests over the past decade from individuals and cycling advocates to install bike lanes on Henderson Road. The route is especially popular with students commuting to the **University of Victoria**.

Private university eyes downtown office space

Victoria News

By Brennan Clarke

Dec 15 2006

Fledgling University Canada West has inked a lease deal that will see the privately run institution move into 30,000 feet of office space in a yet-to-be-built downtown development.

The two-year-old school, currently located in the former Blanshard elementary school, will move into Radius, a mixed-use office and residential complex planned for the city block immediately north of the historic Hudson Bay building on Douglas Street.

“In a way we’re a victim of our own success,” said UCW president David Strong.

“We looked at the funds to do some decent landscaping here, to do things with this

The school is aiming for a 50-50 split between foreign and domestic students by the end of its first five years. Right now about 80 per cent are domestic students.

Formerly known as The Well, Radius will include 84 residential units, 17,000 square metres of office space, 300 underground parking spaces, a pub, a fitness facility and a daycare.

The project will cover about two-thirds of the city block bordered by Blanshard, Douglas, Caledonia and Herald streets.

When the proposal came before council in July, some councillors expressed concern over a proposed 60 per cent increase in allowable density. It's one of several recent proposals that have highlighted the city's piecemeal approach to granting extra density in return for public amenities. However, none of the buildings proposed for Radius exceed the city's 43-metre height limit.

Maggie Kerr-Southin of Artemis Public Relations and Design, the company handling publicity for Radius, said the project is expected to go to public hearing early in the new year.

Construction is slated to start in the spring, providing the proposal receives council's approval, she added.