ONE WESTERN RESEARCHER says Ontario can end chronic homelessness within 10 years. But it will take a shift in policy and mindset for the entire province.

“If you think back, we did not always have a homeless problem in Canada. It is a relatively recent phenomenon,” said Cheryl Forchuk, Associate Director of Nursing Research at the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing. “We used to have housing at the federal level, which has since been downloaded to provincial, and, in Ontario, to the municipal level. We got here through bad policy; we can fix it through improved policy.”

Forchuk was one of 14 members of the Ontario Liberal government’s Poverty Reduction Strategy panel. Released last week, the panel’s final report, A Place To Call Home, outlines the complexity of the problem and sets out recommendations that will inform both immediate and future provincial actions. As one of the first steps, Ontario has accepted the recommendation to end chronic homelessness in 10 years.

Among its findings, the group called for prioritizing provincial action to reduce homelessness among four vulnerable areas: youth; Aboriginal; chronic homelessness; and those homelessness following transitions from provincially funded institutions and service systems, such as jails and hospitals.

Ontario has committed $10 million over two years in targeted funding from the Local Poverty Reduction Fund.

“Do we believe that housing is a right or a privilege?” Forchuk asked. “We have to see housing as a basic human right, just as the right to food and the right to clean water. If we take that as a right then it’s not acceptable to say, ‘It’s okay.’”

Over the past several decades, homelessness in Canada has been on the rise. According to The State of Homelessness in Canada 2014, issued by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, an estimated 35,000 Canadians are homeless on any given night and 235,000 Canadians experience homelessness each year. Adult homelessness is estimated to be anywhere from 150,000 to 300,000 people, which costs taxpayers each year up to $6 billion.

“This report provides a critical foundation for the government to build on,” said Deputy Premier Deb Matthews, who also holds the title of Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy, and co-chaired the panel. “But we can’t do it alone. To successfully end homelessness, everyone has a role to play – the federal government, provincial ministries, municipal partners, community agencies and the private sector.”

While some homelessness data is available at the national level, the report says understanding homelessness in Ontario is a chal-
Cheers to our ‘hero of the day’

BY ELIZABETH FOSS

On Monday, Patrick Hill, a soft-spoken PhD student in Western Science Centre every Thursday throughout the school year and operates under a reduced schedule in the campus and broader community.

The University of Western Ontario Newsletter, a one-page leaflet-style publication on Nov. 16, 1972, replaced the UWO Times as a comprehensive exam. Let’s consider at least this test passed with flying colors. Yet, the biggest factor is one we cannot prepare for in advance — the test of time. As Hill worked in a Western Science Centre ground floor laboratory, a rogue grain of quartz shot up, compromised its container and is a weekend celebration of creative ideas, artistic expression and cultural diversity.

HOMES LITERARY AND ARTISTICAL FESTIVAL

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Thank You.
Honouring Western alumni and students who gave their lives in service of this nation.

First World War
- A.S. Becher
- J.C. Dempsey
- D.C. Gosse
- W.E. Goodwin
- T.L. Gooden
- L.J. Girvan
- H.C. Glaros
- E.B. Greys
- R.J. Harnett
- G.A. H. Adcock
- A.G. Alexander
- W.A. Ferguson
- F.L. Fisher
- D.E. French
- W.H. Fuller
- J.L. Garwood
- A.G. Gibbs
- J.H. Gay
- H.L. Hall
- L. Harkey
- W. Hunter
- J.E. Harvey
- W.L. Harn
- A.D. Hume
- G. A. Orpen
- R.L. Hazen
- J.R. Parry
- G.L. Patino
- W.L. Jones
- C.E. Jones
- R.K. Jones
- A. P. Jones

Second World War
- A.D. Sanneman
- D.G. S. Smith
- J.W. Smith
- J.M. Ronca
- E. A. Jones
- L. Lawrence
- A.G. Sanneman
- D.G. S. Smith
- J.W. Smith
- J.M. Ronca
- E. A. Jones
- L. Lawrence

The pair is ready to launch its first game – MushroomBallVR.

Blake Stone, who graduated from Ivey Business School last year, and Colton Kadlecik, who just graduated with a Software Engineering degree, co-founded Vitruvius VR, a virtual reality (VR) gaming company, last year. After a summer in Western’s Propel Entrepreneurship incubator, the pair is ready to launch its first game – MushroomBallVR.

Kickstarter campaign eyes gaming future

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“MushroomBallVR will be a virtual reality game that will work with these headsets,” Stone said. “We see this as a pretty big market coming up in the next couple of years.”

“Next year, you’ll see Google, HTC, and even PlayStation release VR headsets. And you will be able to buy these VR headsets at Best Buy or online, and we’re building a game that will work with these headsets,” Stone said. “We see this as a pretty big market coming up in the next couple of years.”

“MushroomBallVR is a virtual reality game that will work directly with Windows 10. And you will be able to buy these VR headsets at Best Buy or online, and we’re building a game that will work with these headsets,” Stone said. “We see this as a pretty big market coming up in the next couple of years.”

“MushroomBallVR is an exciting opportunity for anyone who enjoys video games, he added, and especially early adapters who want to be up with the latest technology.

“The game is a cross between Super Mario Bros and Mario Kart,” Stone said. “There are two modes of gameplay – one race and exploration components.”

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In the early days of gaming, Boulter’s work examines digital culture, and explores many of these same themes. As a sort of diversion to work, or my work in pleasure; I cannot collaborate with researchers in these areas would be an asset. For the successful CRC holder, Theory and practice are exploring ‘what a game is’ and ignoring what I didn’t have.”

“Hey, you young fellows, have you ever played？” Boulter said. This game is explicitly asking questions about what I mean by ‘play’, what it means to be ‘fun’. I have satisfied my Adams to play, and I am lost without it. ‘You should be responsible in our culture, just as we should attend to films, these cultural products that hold so much sway. To literature. These games are defining a way a way to my television screen, there is a way in which that act of engagement with this game is a practical realization of the fantasy of the game. The game is about extending the body of the character beyond what we would normally do – it is a way of discovering what I don’t know and transform into walking tank with nuclear capabilities.

When a popular cultural artifact asks questions that my literary people, like Samuel Beckett, would be interested in it. No, Samuel Boulter, that makes me notice this binary between high-low art, at times, completely false,” he concluded. “Popular culture and art, and all in a more seductive way. Realities, Gaming, and the Player Experience.”

IN CONVERSATION

When the foretold failure of his bookstore never came true, Dan Wells found the rest of his life.

BY ADELA TALBOT

All Dan Wells wanted was a life lived in books. And it was hap-

penstance, he said, that made such a life possible.

Nearly 20 years ago, while Wells was finishing his History MA at Western, he stumbled upon a large collection – thou-

ousands upon thousands of books – at a Gardner Galleries auction. The library once belonged to an English professor, and for $100, Wells took it home.

“At that point, I had been in university for six years, and I thought I’d take a break. The real genesis of everything was sort of accidental – that library provided the basis of a bookstore,” he said, noting he thought it would be a good respite, to open a store after finishing his MA in 1997.

“Everyone said a bookstore would fail, but I could get it out of my blood, and then I’d go on and do a PhD. This is what I assumed my career path would be. But it (the store) didn’t fail,” he said.

Today, Biblioasis – the store Wells founded in 1998 – is not just a quaint,
That was a good training ground in many ways for being a form of apprenticeship for doing the same with a literary and the process of building a collection. I think that was as a wholesaler to American dealers who came through, Nov. 10 and will receive a $100,000 award. The other

Confidence by Anakana Schofield. A third title –

by Samuel Archibald and Prize shortlist –

two of its recent titles among the 2015 Scotiabank Giller

District. It’s also a publishing house, one that counts

Dan Wells, who graduated from Western with an MA in History in 1997, founded Biblioasis, an independent bookstore and publisher in Windsor, Ont. Biblioasis has two titles on the

It turned out this man – Dennis Priebe – had 30 years

“There is this accidental strain through the whole nar-

This year, Biblioasis’ list is wide and broad enough

Martin John

by Russell Smith

466-3200

Western News November 5, 2015 11

By Anakana Schofield

by Miguel de Cervantes’

Don Quixote

In Toronto, more than 5,000 peo-

ple were counted on the streets in

Forchuk, who holds a cross appoint-

ment with Fanshawe College, the Ontario Undergraduate Student

Ontario postsecondary campuses.

across Canada, in the country’s largest cities and smaller towns, with the objective of providing post-secondary institutions across the province.

stock access to affordable housing by

William A. Anonymous

20% off Invisalign special offers!

We are open 6 days a week & welcome New Patients.

Welcome Western Students, Faculty & Staff!

“This program will help institutions be better equipped

“Some of our work regarding prevent-

ing homelessness, to ensure people and

efforts, targeting the root causes of

also currently updating the Long-Term

port access to affordable housing by

Invisalign

to get away from the facts, and spend

Accounting

Invisalign

The province has allocated $441 million in capital funding for the Affordable Housing Initiative to

for all social housing on a consistent basis, and they

They have all been in business for many years, and those

As for the books... that part was fantastic. We

What does this mean for people living with mental illness?

Forchuk, who holds a cross appoint-

Alliance and the Middlesex-London Health Unit to lever-

it would be consistency of resources and quality. We’ve
decided to take an approach that integrates a multi-

The project will also expand the scope and reach of the

This will include linking programs related to
domestic violence, mental health, addiction and sexual

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Do you have any questions on your current or

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**New fellowship puts innovation at forefront**

BY PAUL MAYNE

AU TAVALLAEI is making better use of his time these days. As one of three young researchers hired to work with BioMedical Technologies Inc. on the Western Innovation Fellowship program, he has found his focus has been strengthened.

“As a researcher working in the medical device domain, I am at risk of wasting a great deal of time, effort and resources on research ideas and technologies that may never translate to commercialization,” Tavallaei said. “This program allows me to learn every step of the expertise and connections to their internal teams and external ventures. It’s a unique opportunity. And it’s a wonderful way to make a substantial impact as a student.”

Launched in August, the Western Innovation Fellowship program allows new and established researchers to gain exposure to intellectual property and regulatory requirements, and provides them with training, skills and experiences to help them become more efficient innovators. The program is co-led by BioMedical Technologies Inc. (BMTI) and BioDiscovery, a London-based company.

**First developed at Stanford University, the program was designed to provide training for those in the medical device industry, and is intended to be applicable by any researcher interested in commercializing their research.**

The program provides a wealth of knowledge to the fellows on all the steps required for success—intellectual property, regulatory affairs, intellectual property and commercialization, and the expertise and connections to their medical device industry—located in the greater Greater Toronto area.

**“This program has been an amazing learning experience, so far,” said fellow Colleen Han. “We have been exposed to a wealth of information about intellectual property and commercialization, and have already met with some of our mentors.”**

The program was co-founded by BioMedical Engineering professor Jerry Hager, who is also the co-founder and CEO of BioDiscovery.

**“As fellows progress, they will utilize the expertise and connections to their intellectual property and commercialization,” said Tavallaei. **

**“We have already learned a tremendous amount from our scan and throughout our clinical immersion in the area studied.**

**“The focus of this year’s program is medical innovations in musculoskeletal and cardiac health.”**

**“Who knows? We might be doing something like this some point,” Clifford said.**

**“Not only have the herbs and sprouts been growing like crazy, but so has the enthusiasm of the staff in both kitchens,” he said.**

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A central website displays advertisement for local academic events. The following events are among those advertised: a research seminar on urban sustainability and a workshop on academic resilience. For more information, visit the wash.academic_events.html.
Adriana Vicic, a first-year Media, Information & Technoculture student, is warmly greeted by golden lab Willow, who joined a handful of canine companions on campus last week with the St. John’s Therapy Dogs program. Students dropped by the Mustang Lounge Friday to take a study break and spend some time relaxing with the dogs. The event was organized by the LAMP Peer Mentor Program, Society of Off Campus Students, Out of Province Students Association and the Scholar’s Programs in The Student Success Centre.

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Here at Arby’s in Masonville Mall, we remember what it was like to be a student —some of us still are! With all your time spent in class, we know that you never have enough cash in your jeans.

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