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 00:13

Good morning. Thanks for joining us today. I'm killed at all. And I might show Ashraf here are some of the stories we're following for you this morning from the On The Record newsroom.

 00:26

The Ontario government has just announced the one fare program promising significant savings for commuters. This initiative will allow travelers to transfer between various public transportation systems with just one fare. This includes GO Transit, the TTC and other regional transit systems across the GTHA. Starting on February 26. The program is projected to save riders an average of \$1,600 per year. With this launch Toronto Transit is set to become more affordable and accessible than ever before.

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The Ford government will also be spending almost \$800 million to build a new tower for Toronto Western Hospital in downtown Toronto. The project will add 82 new patient beds to the province but to the hospital said the province on Tuesday. The tower is estimated to be completed by 2028. This announcement is welcome news considering consistent calls from health care workers for more hospital beds have been echoed across the province. Ontario needs to add an estimated 8170 more hospital beds over the next four years to care for the provinces aging population, said the Ontario Council of hospital unions in September.

 01:42

Exciting news for soccer fans in the city. Toronto was set to host six matches of the FIFA World Cup and 2026. The tournament jointly hosted by Mexico, Canada and the US will kick start on June 11 at Mexico City's Azteca Stadium. On June 12, Toronto's very own BMO field will host Canada's men's national teams the first game, Canada will stage 13 of the tournaments, 104 games, and Toronto and Vancouver. The city anticipates generating \$393 million in GDP and creating over 3600 jobs. With three host countries and 16 host cities. The tournament is expected to be the largest FIFA World Cup to date.

 02:29

Conservative leader Pierre Polya confirmed he is against minors using puberty blockers on Wednesday. His position comes after Alberta premier Daniel Smith announced controversial new restrictions for transgender youth in the province of Alberta will ban all gender affirming surgeries for those under the age of 18. The policies also banned the use of puberty blockers for children under 16. Puberty blockers are reversible medications that can be used to delay changes caused by puberty. The Alberta Medical Association spoke out against Smith's policies, warning that the mental health of transgender children will worsen if they are denied gender affirmed care.

 03:15

In campus news, the international issues discussion series continued Wednesday nights with a talk from award winning filmmaker and journalist Michelle Shepherd with more on the event and what Shepard had to say on the current state of journalism. Here's Carrie Maia show.

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On Wednesday evening, award winning journalist Michelle Shepard held a lecture at TMU's titled telling truth in a post truth era. The lecture was organized by the International Issues discussion series, and was held in the George very Engineering and Computing Center. Michelle spoke about the state of the journalism industry and how the public has lost trust in the news that I think we are at a point of

 03:58


close to a crisis in journalism in terms of the public's trust. And I cited a couple of statistics tonight. But you know, the latest statistics show that less than 40% of Canadians actually believe in trust or was in most of the time, Michelle spoke about how big tech companies now profit off the spread of misinformation. She highlighted that since 2024 is a global election year, it is now more important than ever to get the facts right 64 countries and a combined population of 49% of people around the world will be voting this year. Many right wing parties use misinformation to place blame on their opponents or chalk of any wrongdoing to fake news. Generally, people do not trust the media in ways that they used to even like three or four years ago. And this has been harnessed by you know, governments around the world, populist politicians who take advantage of you know, not having a reputable news organization, you know, not having to be held to account and they have really

 05:00

You know fed that narrative of it being the enemy media and fake news. To combat the spread of misinformation, Michelle urges journalists to search for the facts and not just ones that fit their biases. She states that if we add to the misinformation, then we have just given up. For On The Record. This is Chimera show.

 05:21

New this morning, the Government of Ontario announced a pause to the hike and beer tax and LCBO Marcos for two years. Originally, as of March 1, the federal government was set to increase the alcohol tax by 4.6%. This increase has been paused for two years. Combined with increased drink prices, students are finding it harder to keep up with the cost of socializing. With more on reaction how students would have felt with the increase here is Patrick Pearson.

 05:53

The price of a pint on your favorite bar might be going up this spring, as the federal government is set to increase the alcohol tax by 4.7%. On April 1. Toronto's bars and restaurants have already been raising prices steadily over the past few years. Keep up with rising inflation and operating costs. This is making going out increasingly unaffordable for young people, especially students. It's already hard to be a student in app with paying tuition and everything and then having to come to a bar and spending like \$16 on a drink is just absolutely insane. 100% and especially the social aspect of going out in your friends, it's hard to do. In 2017, Canada's federal government passed legislation to automatically raise the alcohol tax yearly to adjust for inflation without the approval of the House of Commons. Since then, the taxes increased by 19%.

 06:43

Oh yeah, prices are increasing everywhere. And it's it's a little crazy, especially on a university student budget. Just because everyone's so busy so going out to just a place to eat. It's just really convenient, like timewise, but it's not convenient for your pocket at all. According to beer Canada 47% of the price of beer in Canada is made up of tax compared to 17%. In the United States. However, a study from the University of Victoria found that higher alcohol taxes lead to lower consumption and to help combat the negative effects of drinking, such as addiction and cancer. These inflated prices have led some young people to change their drinking habits. I wouldn't say it's making me go less, but it's definitely making me go to cheaper bars in the city. I'm just not going to the really expensive ones anymore, or the ones that are expensive now, definitely like the campus pub, I'm going to Gracies you know, places like that. It changes how I interact with a restaurant. Like if I'm going out to a place with the sole purpose of drinking I might like drink beforehand, because it's a little bit cheaper than going to a place and then drinking there. I gotta say it's a little low rageous but it hasn't stopped me from going out. For On The Record. I'm Patrick Pearson.

 07:58

Preparations for Chinese New Year are well underway all throughout the city as he gear up for the big day on Saturday. With more on the festivities happening around Toronto this weekend. Here's our very own Calum to know. Chinese New Year's arriving on February 10. And with that will come a variety of ways to celebrate in Toronto. Here's some different ways to welcome in or near various dance and artistic performances will be held in the spa Chinatown Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm. Look for the festivities near dragon City Mall and the Chinatown

center. Also on February 10, from noon to 2pm is a large family style event organized in and around the Chinese cultural centers location at 51. A three Sheppard Avenue East vice president of the Center Emily Wong said this event is really open to the public, including games, Chinese calligraphy and Kung Fu demos. While I'm also said the Chinese Cultural Center will host a celebration dinner on February 17 that you need to buy ticket in order to attend. The Agha Khan Museum will hold a display of Chinese culture and history from February 17 to the 19th during the hours of 11am to 5pm. Finally, a fundraising gala called the dragon ball will be held at the Toronto Metro Convention Center on February 10, with tickets being sold to help donate money to the Hong foundation for geriatric care. This Chinese New Year will be special because is the Year of the Dragon witch trials mythology represents prosperity and goodness.



09:32

And to everyone celebrating we wish you a happy and safe New Year. But the celebrations don't stop there as people are also getting ready for Superbowl 58 this Sunday. Here to tell us what we can expect from this weekend showdown and more on sports is Nicholas Viveros. Thanks Kailyn. It will be a Super Bowl 54 Rematch as the Kansas City Chiefs in San Francisco 40 Niners square off and Elijah Stadium in Las Vegas this Sunday. Patrick mahomes will be



10:00

Adding first third Super Bowl and as many years as his career playoff record stands at 14 wins and three losses. There is no doubt that chiefs defense will have their hands full as the 40 Niners offense bolsters weapons like Christian McCaffrey, Debo Samuel brands and IU and George Kittel, who will be looking to avenge their loss for four years ago. Brock Purdy AKA Mystery relevant we're looking to create a Cinderella story party was selected with the last pick in the 2022 NFL Draft. And just two years later, he finds himself starting in a Super Bowl game. Expect Christian McCaffrey anytime touchdown to be one of the most popular bet prompts this Sunday as the running back is found the end zone and back to back games and remain San Francisco's best option in the redzone Tmu men's hockey we'll be taking a trip to Quebec this Friday to take on youth UQ TR and the final regular season game of the season. The schools last faced off in April 2022 And you QTR. were victorious by a score of 72 T and you are already locked into the second seat in the UAE UAE West with the current record of 19 Eight it will certainly be looking to capture 20 win season. It will be a battle of two of the only ways top goal scorers as Simone de France have you QTR currently leads the UAE with 24 goals and TMU's Kyle bowlers is not too far behind his seven team. Puck drop is slated for 7pm. Canada will host 13 games during the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The games will be split between Shawn as BMO field in Vancouver's BC Place Team Canada will play their tournament opener at BMO field on June 12 as host nations are guaranteed qualification Toronto's BMO field will hold an additional 8000 seats during the tournament to meet FIFA as minimum 45,000 seat capacity. FIFA president Gianni Infantino called Toronto a great city which has a great football or soccer tradition. The rest of the tournament is being held in the US and Mexico with the final taking place in New Jersey's MetLife Stadium. And that's all for sports. Thanks for listening. I'm Nicholas Rivera's fur On The Record, back to you in the studio.



11:54

For those who are planning on spending some time outdoors, it's looking like you might have a rainy weekend ahead of you. With your five day forecast and more on the weather. Here's sikita Morgan. Good morning, Toronto. I'm sikita Morgan and this is your weather update for the upcoming week. Buckle up because Mother Nature has quite the show planned for us. Brace yourself Torontonians we've got a special weather statement in play. Expect heavy rainfall throughout the day. You might want to grab your rain boots and an extra large umbrella has reached around 10 degrees but it's the rain that'll still show. For those of you driving your windshield wipers will be your best friend. Mississauga will see a high of 11 degrees. Brampton will see a soggy day ahead with highest and also around 11 degrees. Don't forget your rank of Brampton. Hamilton is in the same boat Hi is also 11 degrees and the rain won't let up. Now let's zoom out a bit beyond the city in Oshawa expect showers with highs near eight degrees rockin will have rainy vibes continue highs at around six degrees. Now onto our weekly forecasts. Saturday in Toronto, it will be partly cloudy, so you might catch glimpses of the Sun playing hide and seek with highs at minus eight degrees and a low at one degrees. On Sunday, there will be highs of four degrees and lows that won't go below zero degrees. On Monday, we will see highs of four degrees and lows at minus one. Next week on Tuesday Expect highs of four degrees and lows at around minus three degrees. Once they will be will be quite a bit cooler. We're ending the week on a mild note minus one degrees as a high and lows at minus six degrees. Remember folks, this is a forecast This forecast is a sneak peek into the future, meaning it is subject to change. And hey, if you're wondering about Thursday, well that's a cliffhanger for another day. Back to you.



13:48

From the Grammys to the Super Bowls halftime show. There was a lot happening in the world of entertainment. But the rundown on that here's done I'm a Samara



13:58

perfect. This week had a lot going on, but one of the highlights was Taylor Swift. Not only did the pop icon make history, winning her fourth Grammy for Album of the Year on her album Midnight's but she also announced a whole brand new album, I want to say thank you to the fans by



14:18

telling you a secret that I've been keeping from you for the last two years, with 11th album titled The tortured poets department will be coming out April 19th. So stay tuned for that. And other not so happy news. Buckingham Palace has confirmed that King Charles has been diagnosed with cancer. While the palace has not specified what kind of cancer the king has. It was discovered during recent treatment for an enlarged prostate. The king who was 75 will be postponing public facing duties as he undergoes treatment at a London clinic. Last but not least, we can't forget the upcoming Super Bowl happening this weekend on Sunday. Post Malone will be performing American the beautiful before



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kickoff and then for this your Super Bowl halftime show. Asha will be gracing the stage allegedly with some secret special guests. So we'll be looking forward to that. That's all for entertainment this week back to you in the studio. Aisha and Calum.

15:14

That's all for On The Record this February 9 2000 2004. I'm counting to know and I might shut Ashraf join us for On The Record next week as we round out the latest stories from the OTA our newsroom for the latest 24/7 Visit our website On The Record news.ca Have a great day.