

OTR-2026-BROADCAST-FEB11

Wed, Feb 11, 2026 7:48PM

25:45

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

BC mass shooting, Toronto budget, Tmu health clinics, student funding cuts, Black History Month, alcohol sales policy, Winter Olympics, Tmu general election, student groups, primary care investment, youth safety, homeless outreach, corruption investigation, community engagement, weather forecast.

SPEAKERS

Mia Di Panfilo, Speaker 1, Yousuf Zaidi, Speaker 17, Gabriel Hilty, Speaker 15, Speaker 12, Speaker 18, Jaden Whitelaw, Uchechi Njoku, Speaker 11, Yoons Park, Speaker 16, Julie Sawicki, Speaker 8, Moyo Lawuyi, Speaker 14

J Jaden Whitelaw 00:13

A mass shooting in BC has left 10 people dead.

M Moyo Lawuyi 00:17

The Toronto City Council approved the 2026 budgets,

J Jaden Whitelaw 00:22

the Tmu School of Medicine launches integrated health clinics

M Moyo Lawuyi 00:26

and a new policy allowing alcohol sales to start at 6am the

J Jaden Whitelaw 00:44

Good afternoon. Thanks for joining us today. I'm Jaden Whitelaw.

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Moyo Lawuyi 00:47

and I am Moyo Lawuyi. Today, we are starting with the shooting in BC.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 00:53

The small community of Tumbler Ridge BC is in mourning today, after 10 people have died and 25 are injured after a mass shooting yesterday, the RCMP was called to the Tumbler Ridge secondary school just after 1pm local time, where they found multiple victims with gunshot wounds. Police say the person believed to be the shooter is among 10 deceased after a self inflicted gunshot wound. Two of the deceased were found dead at a nearby home, which is believed to be connected to the suspect. BC, Premier David Eby has called the shooting a devastating and unbelievable tragedy. In an emotional statement, Prime Minister Mark Carney pledged to offer any assistance the federal government can give condolences have also been sent from world leaders to the community of Tumbler Ridge BC, and on behalf of the TMU community, we also send our condolences.

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Moyo Lawuyi 01:43

Toronto city council has approved the 2026 budget after final considerations concluded at City Hall on February 10, councilors made only minor changes to the original proposal, which Mayor Olivia Chow submitted in early January. The new budget includes a 2.2% tax increase, the lowest Chow has imposed during her tenure. There will also be a TTC fare freeze and a monthly fare cap effective September, Chow allocated additional funds for youth safety and homeless outreach. The budget also includes a spending increase for the Toronto Police of about 90 million a controversial move amid an ongoing corruption investigation.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 02:25

TMU's medical school is expanding into the Brampton community with the opening of two integrated health clinics on February 17. They are set to connect more than 14,000 to a primary doctor and community centered team based care over the next two years, the health clinics represent a new connected model that brings together primary care, medical education and population health research under one unified system. This is a part of an investment into the province's primary care workforce. As the government invested an additional \$30 million of funding, health minister Sylvia Jones also announced an additional 170 new education spots for primary care nurse practitioners across Ontario nursing schools including TMU's Daphne cockwell School of Nursing. The primary clinic will be located at the School of Medicine, and a second clinic will cater to residents in downtown Brampton,

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Moyo Lawuyi 03:18

Over here on campus the TMSU is making significant changes to student life. Last week, On The Record News reported that, amongst other changes, the union was slashing base funding for student groups by 60% this morning, I spoke with Uchechi Njoku, founder and president of TMU's book club. I asked her how groups like hers use base funding from the TMU.

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Uchechi Njoku 03:41

Basically, we actually pay first and then we are reimbursed from TMU. And the funding cuts have been a bit trickier because now we have to adjust our budget, especially most of our own inquiries are usually mostly food, so we have a larger amount of people. We have to cut that on that and ration it off, and also look for cheaper sources as well. It's just a little bit more difficult now having to adjust towards having to reduce the amount of money that we can spend for our club as well. Yeah.

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Moyo Lawuyi 04:14

So basically, are there any particular like categories, like you said, food is there on out of things like events, because I know that your book club. So do you buy books or like is, how are you basically gonna cut operational costs due to the funding being reduced?

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Uchechi Njoku 04:29

Yeah, so we barely buy books. We like to actually encourage people to go towards boring or finding other books, and through our team your library, however, we do have other expenses as well. When we have bigger events, we usually have decorations that we put into we have prices as well that we have to pay for. But our main costs are usually food and beverages, because there's a large amount of people who are coming to sit down for a long period of time to just sit and discuss the book. So to keep that in mind as well, but our main focus is really. Decorations, books, not books, sorry, decorations and food and any other expenses as well. Yes.

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Moyo Lawuyi 05:05

Do you remember where you were when you heard about the funding being cut? Did you attend the meeting, or did any of your other Group executives attend the meeting? And how did you react and how did you basically feel about it?

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Uchechi Njoku 05:15

Yeah, so I didn't attend the meeting because I was preoccupied today, but I did send my VP of events to go towards it. And when I heard back from her and got the notes that she had given to me, I was very disappointed, just because it's already so difficult communicating with TMU's you especially about funding and to now see how little that we're going to get, it made us really like disheartened. And when the other members of the club also found out about what was happening in regards to em, but it was very disheveled, irritated, annoyed, just kind of feeling like we don't really know what to do, because also the situation when we have to apply for funding as well, we're only giving a two week period to apply, and the application started, I believe one day After the meetings were done. So it was not a long short it was very short turnover time, and a lot of us had things to do as well. So we were so preoccupied having to go through that we had midterms, we had other clubs to work for. So it was very stressful for everyone.

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Moyo Lawuyi 06:15

Okay, what do you wish TMSU would have done better when it came to the announcement or just letting student groups be aware of the new changes?

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Uchechi Njoku 06:22

Yeah, I wish there was better communication. We have an email, but they didn't send us an email about this. Notice. They sent us the personal emails of us, but that's obviously filled with schoolwork, so we're not obviously that we have a main Tmu book club. Email wasn't sent to that. That was really difficult to find out. We found our very last minute that this was even being held. Being held. And then I wish they would communicate better beforehand and also during the situation. I wish the people would respond more quickly. It's a bit difficult to get in contact with them. Sometimes they take, like, months to respond back to you on certain stuff. So that's very frustrating to deal with as a Tmu student and also as a exec for a Google club or any club? Yeah.

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Moyo Lawuyi 07:05

So lastly, student groups like yours are integral to student life and socialization on campus, especially since our campus is a community of campus where many people commit and like don't really stay and socialize and make friends. How do you think cutting the funding is going to affect student groups on potentially Student Life in the long run.

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Uchechi Njoku 07:22

Yeah, so I think it's going to be harder for student groups to want to be formed, because firstly, like I said, before we pay and then they reimburse us, a lot of students don't have a lot of money to be spending out on all this kind of stuff. And if there's this lesser promise of a bigger funding. There's no real initiative to actually go do this events, because no one has the money for it. So I think that's really going to bring down people who are more interested in starting clubs and also running the clubs. I think it have bigger clubs who have much higher expenses than we do. Some of them can go up into the \$600 and I believe the minimum per event is \$3,000 if you get the events funding. But if you're having an event each month, that's and use the max, that's already 9000 and that's already above the required the maximum amount, which is 6000 for the entire semester, for event funding only. That's not talking about base funding, which is just \$600 so I think that I don't see a lot of people wanting to start new clubs, because the funding is just so difficult to get, or it's just getting harder to communicate with TMSU as well.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 08:31

Well, students will have their say to elect a new executive and board of directors as TMSU officially announced its general election on Monday. The students' union currently has no elected executive team after the past two elections were declared null and void, I went around campus this week speaking to students about the TMSU, and the majority declined to comment because they did not know a lot about the Students' Union currently, here's what a few students who did speak to me had to say, how up to date are you with the Tmu currently? I would say a little bit, not too much, but yeah,

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Speaker 14 09:05

I haven't heard much about it. I don't really know much about that.

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09:10

Not very updated. I know of them. I know

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Speaker 12 09:13

of them. Did you know about what happened last semester with the fall election? Not at all. I'm sure you don't know. Like, who's in charge of Tmu right now. Do you no clue? Do you even know who, like, who runs it? Like, right now? No, no, yeah. And you know there's an election coming up this semester.

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Speaker 15 09:30

No, I've heard about it. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Like, I talked to

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Speaker 12 09:33

people and they're like, We don't know, or know nothing about tmsu. Like, are you surprised by that?

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Speaker 16 09:38

No, I'm not surprised. In the slides again after last semester. Yeah, that left hell of an impression on everybody.

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Speaker 14 09:45

I just saw a lot of like, emails saying, like people were going around, like, trying to get people to vote for them.

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Speaker 17 09:52

Honestly, I feel like I get so many emails from TMSU that it's really difficult to know which ones I should be paying attention to and which ones I shouldn't be Yeah. So, yeah, I think that's the main thing. I can't they kind of just blur out and I end up ignoring them, because there's so many of them.

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Speaker 15 10:08

I saw the emails, but not too much. Like, I'm not, yeah, yeah.

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Speaker 12 10:13

I'm curious, how did you know about the election? Like, you checking your email word of mouth, or, like, how did you find out a mix of the two, your email onward amounts. If it wasn't for that, I wouldn't have known anything.

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Speaker 14 10:24

Um, I mean, I've been getting emails maybe now, but I haven't like again, I don't really know much about it. So I

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Speaker 17 10:34

get the general ones that I know. The general ones are, like, the elections and stuff like that. But for now, I don't know what it does, or what this election would do for me, so

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10:43

I'm not really sure what they're trying to do right now.

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Jaden Whitelaw 10:46

Now these are only a few students opinions on things currently, but tmsu reiterated that students are always the number one priority during a general information session I attended last week, students who want to run for positions can submit nominations starting February 23.

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Moyo Lawuyi 11:02

This February, Canada celebrates 30 years of officially recognizing Black History Month. Dr Jean Augustine, the first black woman elected to the House of Commons. Officially recognized Black History Month in 1995 with the first celebration occurring the following year. This year's theme is 30 years of Black History Month honoring Black brilliance across generations, from nation builders to TMU's visionaries. Tmu will also be honoring the month with several events. The Viola Desmond awards, honoring leading Black women in the community, will take place on the 19th the Black Studies library tour will take place on the 25th and the seventh annual Black excellence mixer, connecting Black students, faculty, staff and alumni, will be on the 26th

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Jaden Whitelaw 11:48

Toronto City Council passed a new policy allowing alcohol sales to start at 6am to support viewership of the Winter Olympics, which started over the weekend. This sparks concerns over easy access to alcohol. OTR reporter Yoons Park has the story.

Y

Yoons Park 12:05

What's typically a quiet morning for Sean Wolf is now spent opening doors early and getting ready for early Olympic crowds.

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Speaker 18 12:12

If Canada is in the tournament, we might open a little bit early for that, but we don't plan on opening up at 6am in the morning for any of the events. I just don't think people are going to come to that a lot of people have jobs, or people have to go to school, or they're still sleeping, perhaps.

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Speaker 1 12:26

But beyond the Olympic excitement, this temporary policy raises questions about how early alcohol service fits into Toronto's drinking culture and what it means for public health

Y

Yoons Park 12:35

during covid Several alcohol policy changes were introduced under the banner of supporting small businesses, and they were meant to be temporary, and they still are in effect six years later, according to the Center for Addiction and Mental Health CAMH, the increase of adults suffering from declining mental and physical health since the pandemic policies came into effect is linked to the increasing accessibility to Alcohol. I think it's really important to sort of paint the bigger picture of what a decision like this actually looks like. And what I think these policies are doing is really enforcing the idea that alcohol belongs everywhere, at every hour, at every occasion, and this normalization process matters a lot it's a regular occurrence that celebration and alcohol are tied together. Willis says the real appeal of gatherings is the shared experience.

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Speaker 11 13:28

I mean, honestly, that can lead to some addiction. So I would say, as long as it's always coming from a place of like leisure time, rather than every day. That's the way that it ought to be. So that's not good. So I don't, I don't love them. That's being normalized.

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Speaker 8 13:49

Bar managers say extending alcohol service hours not only helps their business, but better reflects the schedules of people who work late night.

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Speaker 12 13:56

Does have a positive impact, because tourism goes up and, you know, there's more opportunities for people to go out like us, for example, bartenders and servers and cooks and everybody who works in restaurants, we don't have a chance to go out because we finished work at 3am so if there was a chance for us to go after work.

Y

Yoons Park 14:13

Currently, these early openings are tied to the Olympics. The question is whether this is a one time celebration or signals a shift in when and how Toronto drinks for OTR news, I'm Yoons Park.

M

Moyo Lawuyi 14:26

Now, let's hear from Yousuf Zaidi for the latest on entertainment this week.

Y

Yousuf Zaidi 14:32

the latest adaption of the beloved 1847 novel Wuthering Heights has sparked outcry from fans of the book as reviews come in ahead of the film's release, written by Emily Bronte, the famous novel explores layered forms of oppression, abuse, relationships and raw emotion that makes the story still relevant to this day. Critics say fans of the book may be disappointed as the film takes many liberties when adapting the nuanced source material into a clear cut romance. Like previous iterations, the film only adapts the first half of the novel, directed by emerald Fennell, starring Margot Robbie and Jacob elordi. The film is set to release this Friday. Singer and songwriter chapel Rowan has departed from her talent agency Wasserman after the current CEO, Casey Wasserman appeared in the Epstein files. Wasserman, the current head of the 2028 Los Angeles Summer Olympic Committee, was found flirting with Ghislaine Maxwell through emails dating back to 2003 Rowan isn't the only artist criticizing the agency. After the news, other groups within the agency, such as beach bunny and water from your eyes have demanded that Casey Westman to remove his affiliation from the agency. Rohan posted on Instagram that no artist, agent or employee should ever be expected to defend or overlook actions that conflict so deeply with our own morals. A new internet trend was born this past week after Albertan singer Tate McCray faced backlash after posting an NBC ad on her Instagram in support of US Olympic athletes, McRae responded to the backlash by posting an Instagram story featuring a childhood photo of herself holding a Canadian flag with a caption. Y'all know, I'm Canada down the caption has inspired a trend of nostalgia across social media, as accounts post uniquely Canadian childhood memories, all with a caption. Y'all know, I'm Canada down. That's all for entertainment this week for on the record News, I'm Yousuf Zaidi.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 16:34

Over the weekend, fans gathered in Toronto to support their athletes at Milano Cortana 2026, OTR reporter Julie Sawicki was there and gave us a look into the festivities.

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Julie Sawicki 16:48

It's a chilly day in Toronto, but fans are gathered at Nathan Phillips Square for the Canada Fan Fest to support their athletes at Milano Cortana 2026, Olympics. Guests were able to enjoy some winter activities, watch the games together and meet past Canadian Olympic athletes like figure skater Dylan moskovich and gymnast Jessica tudos.

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Speaker 15 17:10

It's a great way to support not just the young athletes, but the amateur athletes that can compete for Canada and win the gold.

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Speaker 14 17:19

Canada Fan Fest is a series of free winter activities put on by Team Canada during the 2026, Winter Olympics, aside from meeting the athletes and the variety of activities, treats and merch are also provided by sponsors. Yeah, I

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Speaker 16 17:32

think it's just a great opportunity to get everyone together and feel kind of the Canadian spirit, especially on a cold day like this. It's just kids of all ages and adults, and everyone's just been popping by and enjoying the spirit of movie at the Olympics.

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Speaker 14 17:47

Olympics are just in their early stages, but Canadians are excited.

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Speaker 17 17:52

It's wonderful because it brings the community together to watch as a whole, as a watch party. It's great getting people out into the city center, even on this wonderful cold day, people have decided to come out and cheer for their for their athletes.

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Julie Sawicki 18:08

The gathering in Toronto is just one leg of Fan Fest, with the event making its way to Calgary, Vancouver and Montreal throughout February. This is Julia Sawicki with OTR news.

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Moyo Lawuyi 18:20

Thanks Julia for that. Look at fans gathering in Toronto to support their athletes. Now we look at sporting events happening. Mia Di Panfilo has more.

M

Mia Di Panfilo 18:31

The 2026 Super Bowl showcased the Seattle Seahawks big win against the New England Patriots, with a triumphant 29 to 13th victory, the Seahawks have officially reversed the outcome from their last Super Bowl meeting in the Brady era. The Seahawks controlled most of the game, establishing an early lead that they never let go. Seattle shut down the Patriots completely by not allowing them to score any points until the fourth quarter. At halftime, bad bunny delivered a historic halftime show, becoming the first solo Hispanic artist to headline the Super Bowl stage. His all Spanish set drew massive global attention, becoming the most watched halftime show in history, with a record breaking total audience of 135 point 4 million viewers, surpassing both Kendrick Lamar and Michael Jackson's previous shows in Olympic sports. The Winter Games are officially in action. Canada's men's hockey team is set to begin their preliminary round on February 12 against Czechia at the 2026 Milano Cortina Olympics. This will kick off a three game preliminary schedule before the playoff rounds to begin later in the tournament. NHL stars such as Connor McDavid and Nathan McKinnon finally get their first Olympic debut, playing alongside the great Sidney Crosby. This Olympic men's hockey tournament is a highly anticipated event as NHL players compete for gold for the first time since. 14 love won't be the only thing in the air this Friday night in local sports, the matami rink is getting into the Valentine's mood as the Tmu women's hockey team matches up against the Carlton Ravens. Fans can expect a festive night themed giveaways and a crowd clad in blue and gold as they look to make a statement before the weekend. Puck drops at 615 so get there early, grab a seat and make this your pre Valentine's Day plans. That's all for sports. Back to you guys.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 20:31

Thanks, Mia. Now let's have a look at the other stories we're working on in our on the record newsroom. Gabriel Hilty is standing by live. What have you got for us?

G

Gabriel Hilty 20:41

Thanks, Jaden, starting with more updates on the tmsu, the notice period for the 2026 tmsu General Election opened on Monday, February 9, with an email to students. It sets out the official election timeline, and undergraduate students can learn about the training and responsibilities required to run in the spring. The upcoming election follows a fall by election that saw all executive ballots voided due to the officer overseeing elections finding voter interference by some candidate groups and outside people. The election scheduled for mid March comes amid a history of mismanaged funds and election interference at the Union, including over 1.4 million in misused money flagged by an external investigation last December, OTR reporter Jaden Whitelaw attended an information session on the upcoming election. He heard from students on what they know about the tmsu and the union's interim executive directors, two non elected people outside of the student body. You can read his story now on our website. The Milano Cortina Winter Olympics are now into their first full week. Canada so far, has three medals behind the leader, Norway with 13 medals as athletes try to climb the ranks in Italy until February 22 the Olympics are also having an impact. Here in Toronto, city council has allowed bars to start serving alcohol at 6am to match the time of live Olympic events, OTR reporters, manner of Alek and Nunes Park visited some bars and examined the role alcohol plays in daily social life. You can read their article that expands on the story on our website, continuing with big sporting events, the FIFA World Cup 2026 is coming to cities across North America in June. Toronto is set to host six matches at the stadium by exhibition place, including the Canadian men's team on June 12, the tournament is expected to bring a surge of soccer fans to the city. OTR reporters, Julia Sawicki and Anish dupar are examining how Toronto's public transit is preparing for the games TTC and Metrolinx came under fire last year for not running enough trains during the World Series run by the Blue Jays. Keep an eye on our website for their story in the coming weeks, this weekend is Ontario's first long weekend of the year extended by family day on Monday, it means most businesses, like grocery stores will be closed or operating with adjusted hours. Government offices, banks and libraries are fully closed on Monday, the OTR newsroom will also take a break with no podcast episode scheduled next week. You can keep an eye on our website, on the record news.ca. For the latest stories. Back to you in the studio, Moyo.

M

Moyo Lawuyi 23:49

For updates on the persistent winter weather, Yoon's Park has the latest.

Y

Yoons Park 23:55

Taking a quick look at the temperature isn't a great guideline for how to dress for this week's weather. With the wind showing no mercy, the streets of Toronto will feel much colder than what it actually is. Unfortunately, it looks like our snowy days aren't over yet, and as freezing temperatures persist, pedestrians and drivers alike will have to watch for ice. We're looking at cold days ahead, with Peterborough today at a high of minus one. Now looking west Barrie and new market are both sitting at a high of minus one, but residents can look forward to less snowfall. Oshawa at a temperature of zero, and Toronto sitting at a high of one. Across the GTA, it's similarly cold, with Hamilton, Brampton and Mississauga all expecting highs of zero degrees, with the GTA expecting light snowfall of less than one centimeter. Conditions are looking up from last week, but the sharp chill of winter isn't letting up yet. Now on to our weekly forecast. Starting with Wednesday, we're looking at a high of one with cloudy skies, but as the sun sets, the temperature drops back down to a low of minus five. Watch out, though, as it will feel about eight degrees colder with the wind chill, enjoy this slight rise as much as you can as the west of the week won't be as kind. Moving on to Thursday, the high will be minus five during the afternoon and will drop to minus 10 overnight. As the wind persists, predictions for Friday show a high of zero with a low of minus 12. This weekend is expected to stay at similar temperatures, and next week might be even warmer. But don't get your hopes up yet, as this forecast may be subjected to change. That's the latest on this week's weather forecast, bundle up, stay warm and healthy, and back to you.

J

Jaden Whitelaw 25:26

Thanks, Yoons, that's all for On The Record today. I'm Jaden Whitelaw.

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Moyo Lawuyi 25:30

and I am Moyo Lawuyi.