

OTR-2026-BROADCAST-SEPT23

📅 Wed, Sep 30, 2026 7:21PM ⌚ 27:21

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

-
- S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 00:00

The TMU community is commemorating the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation today.
 - C

Chris Harrison 00:18

The 2026 World News Day campaign is now underway.
 - S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 00:22

Studying in the European Union could soon be easier for Canadian students.
 - C

Chris Harrison 00:27

Toronto's mayor has proposed a new monthly TTC fare cap.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 00:43

Good afternoon, and thanks for joining us today. I'm Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa,

C

Chris Harrison 00:47

and I'm Chris Harrison. To commemorate the children who never returned home from Canada's residential schools, and in honor of survivors and their families, orange shirts have been worn across the TMU campus to mark Orange Shirt Day. Activities around campus included a pipe ceremony, a reading at the Early Learning Center, and a silent memorial walk to the former Egerton Ryerson statue site.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 01:13

Monday, September 28 marked World News Day, a global campaign raising awareness about journalism's role in providing trustworthy information to the public, this year the campaign runs until October two, with the theme being "Choose Trusted Journalism, encouraging audiences to seek reliable, fact-based news and recognize the role journalism plays in keeping communities informed. The campaign is being observed by at least 800 newsrooms around the world, including in Canada. Earlier today, OTR reporter Garrett Raakman spoke to Dr. Ravindra Mohabeer, the chair of TMU's School of Journalism, and asked him what the most critical challenges confronting the news industry are today.

R

Ravi Mohabeer 02:01

What's interesting is that you can look at the news industry as endemic of what's challenging in the world overall, and you can look at the things that are challenging the industry part of the news. Overall, in the world, we've seen a fracturing of communities and audiences, so people are talking at or around and in parallel to one another. So reaching a shared or wider audience is a big challenge for both the news industry, but for any industry today. You see that there is a growing consideration of how to maintain a balance of being able to provide a good source of information that's reliable, but to also operate a business that's financially viable and consistent and stays in place. We see that's a threat in part from change in technology and tailoring towards efficiency that has necessarily displaced news workers in many locations, and in other locations has introduced opportunities to be in competition with content creators who are not necessarily guided by the same principles of truth and verification, and are instead motivated by other factors like gathering a large audience for a lucrative turnaround, without necessarily the public good intention in their mind.

G

Garrett Raakman 03:12

And how is the School of Journalism evolving its curriculum to directly address these shifts?

R

Ravi Mohabeer 03:18

The School of Journalism is dealing centrally and in a foremost way with the idea that traditional news approaches and traditional news platforms are changing rapidly. So while we are maintaining a foundation in the traditions of news, the traditions of journalism practice, and journalism skill sets, we're making sure that there's a dexterity so that both the ability to integrate new and emergent technologies is forefronted, while at the same time the idea that that foundation needs to find its way forward based off of fairness, trust, accountability, and verification. We have an additional component where we're looking at the idea of thinking about different paces of news. So we're focusing on a narrative and content-driven stream that is about slow and evolved investigation, as well as regular daily hit news, so that people have a capacity to do both. Recognizing, of course, that audiences are in different places and they have different interests, and many audiences are now in a different place where they're interested in explanations rather than just presentation of the facts that are going on on a day-to-day basis, another thing that we're doing is we're centering in a more regular way across every year of the curriculum the relationship and trust necessity as a foundational skill. Before it was always there, but it wasn't quite so forefronted. And from every single year of the curriculum, we've made an intentional shift to make sure that that's more regularly in place, because recognizing that trust is a central feature is something that students who want to be aspiring journalists want to be able to maintain. And the last thing that we're doing is we're looking at the flexibility of the curriculum so that students might find their own path and explore different ways, but also be able to make a viable living from it. One of the great challenges of journalism today is great journalists leaving because they can't afford to continue in the profession. Finding a way to help students balance both of those things is an incredible responsibility, but it's an output that students can guarantee if they are interested in the idea of exploring other opportunities rather than the traditional roles of news industry jobs that may be shifting today.

G

Garrett Raakman 05:21

And last. given the global decline in press freedom and growing safety risks for reporters, what long-term impact will this have on journalism and the next generation of reporters?

R

Ravi Mohabeer 05:35

It doesn't take much to say that people are concerned about marrying their love of the work, their responsibility to want to be a journalist and to do the work journalistically, and looking at what that means in a safety question, both physical safety, social, as well as ephemeral safety in an online space and otherwise. As a result of doing that, we see people who are considering journalism also thinking about it as I love the idea and the possibility, I love the responsibility that I get to exercise, but I'm concerned about how this plays out or can play out in my life. And so, some people are getting all the way through the degree and then thinking maybe I'd like to try a different choice. Well, we lose every time we lose a journalist who is afraid for their or concerned for their safety. What we lose is a voice who participates in a public good conversation that allows us to have variety of different perspectives. And what we have instead is a worry that people whose voices are louder that need more oversight, more consideration, and more visibility in the public eye. That those voices become louder than the journalists who are saying, "But wait, we need to actually ask you what it is you're doing with your power that that society needs to know about. And when people turn away from that because they're worried about the ability to safely do their work, that becomes a much quieter and a much less safe world that we live in.

G

Garrett Raakman 06:59

Thank you, Ravi, for taking the time to talk with me, and now back to the desk.

C

Chris Harrison 07:05

Prime Minister Mark Carney has floated a plan before the European Parliament on September 17th that could let Canadian students study abroad like never before. As Canada and the EU explore a deeper alliance, one idea on the table is bringing Canada into Erasmus+ the EU's flagship student exchange program. On the records, Lucas Ten Houde de Lange looks at what that can mean for students here at TMU.

L

Lucas Ten Houte De Lange 07:29

The proposal would expand on TMU's current partnerships: 51 with the EU as well as nine with Erasmus+ Europe's flagship student exchange program. It picked up momentum this September in a chamber 1000s of kilometers away from campus. Canadian membership of Erasmus Plus would give your students and ours more opportunity to learn at some of the world's top universities. Right now, Canada isn't a member. Carney's proposal seeks to change that. For students here at TMU, Canadian membership could mean more opportunities and funding that expands the foundation of what's already there. In a written statement to OTR, Sarah Berman, Executive Director, Global Engagement and Partnerships at TMU Global, elaborates: A key benefit is mobility. Erasmus Plus can support students and faculty to spend time at partner institutions. These experiences build relationships and trust, which can lead to access to additional European funding opportunities, funding which could help cover costs and enable more students to make a European exchange abroad possible.

S

Speaker 1 08:28

It's like more of like the cost of living that like stops me. So if there was like resources available or like just to help like even a bit, I feel like that would definitely change my perspective on it. On it,

S

Speaker 2 08:38

funding and it's also pretty expensive to live abroad. I don't know if I could get a job there.

S

Speaker 3 08:45

Yeah, I think like a lot of the people have like the same like struggles like as we do. So yeah, I feel like the future students would definitely benefit from that.

S

Speaker 2 08:54

I don't think there's anything offered here for my program though. Right. For exchange.

L

Lucas ten Houde de Lange 08:59

Not every student had heard the details, but the idea of more support to study abroad landed. But nothing is finalized. The associate membership Carney is pursuing doesn't formally exist yet, and even Germany's government has said the term needs to be reconsidered. More details are expected at an EU Canada summit in Montreal next month. For students here, it's a proposal still taking shape. However, one that could open more doors that don't exist today. Reporting for On The Record News, I'm Lucas ten Houde de Lange.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 09:27

Leading mayoral candidates are expected to take part in a debate at Toronto Metropolitan University on Tuesday, October 6. This year's theme is Toronto Together, where candidates will debate about issues impacting the city. Topics will include housing affordability and transit. TMU is hosting the debate at the Student Learning Center in partnership with United Way Greater Toronto and the Toronto Star. The event will be live streamed for anyone who can't attend in person.

C

Chris Harrison 09:59

Toronto Mayor. Olivia Chow has promised a new weekly TTC fare cap if she is reelected this October, but with the new monthly fare cap introduced this month, some writers are questioning whether another one will actually make a difference. Daisy Gammon has this and more.

D

Daisy Gammon 10:20

September 30th marks the end of the first month of the TTC's newly implemented fare cap. Right now, eligible riders pay for their first 47 trips in a month. Once they hit that number, the rest of that month TTC trips are free. The TTC says the program is designed to give riders the benefit of a monthly pass without having to pay for one, but are frequent riders seeing the benefit of the current cap?

S

Speaker 4 10:46

Yeah, like I probably top around maybe like 40 per month, so like I don't really reach that like fair cap. So it's not really much of like a benefit.

S

Speaker 5 10:52

How am I supposed to reach 47 trips by the end of the month? That doesn't make sense at all.

D

Daisy Gammon 10:57

A rider taking two paid trips a day, five days a week, would make about 40 paid trips over four weeks, meaning they would fall short of the current 47 trip threshold. The TTC's August CEO report pointed to improved subway reliability, with on-time performance reaching more than 90 percent. But affordability is only one part of customer experience, so the question is whether lowering the cost of frequent trips addresses what riders actually want most.

S

Speaker 3 11:23

Definitely more.

S

Speaker 4 11:25

Make the fares cheaper. It's way too expensive. The fare kind of like lasting for only like two hours. I don't know. I feel like that's like a little bit too short.

S

Speaker 3 11:35

We just need something. We need something to like help put down the prices just a little bit.

D

Daisy Gammon 11:40

For riders who don't take the TTC frequently enough to hit the monthly threshold, the existing cap may offer little to no savings, and because the current system resets at the beginning of every month, missing the threshold means there are no free rides to carry over. Mayor Olivia Chow is already campaigning on a proposed weekly fare cap. The proposed weekly system would instead reset every Monday. In July, commissioners directed TTC staff to study the potential benefits and costs of introducing one, saying a weekly cap could give riders more flexibility by allowing them to reach the fare cap easier. But how the system would work and what it would ultimately cost remains part of the discussion. We reached out to the TTC for more information about how fare caps are developed and how the weekly system could affect riders. The TTC did not respond to our request. For now, Toronto riders are already testing out one new fare cap, while another could be on the way. And as the municipal election approaches, the debate is shifting not just to how much riders should pay, but how often they should have to pay it. For on-the-record news, I'm Daisy Gammon.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 12:49

Books, authors, and readers took over David Pico Square in Toronto this past weekend. Word on the Street brought together writers, publishers, and literary organizations for its 37th annual festival, OTR reporter Kayla Solway looked at what the country's largest free outdoor book festival means for the city.

K

Kayla Solway 13:12

It's that time of year when readers, writers, and the people behind Canada's publishing industry meet in person. Word on the Street is Canada's largest book and magazine festival. It brought together more than 150 authors and presenters for two days.

S

Speaker 6 13:31

But I think more than anything these days, particularly after COVID, I think it's really important for people to connect in real life and come down and get together with other fans of books and reading, and really celebrate that together.

K

Kayla Solway 13:45

While the festival gives established publishers a chance to connect with readers, it also puts independent authors directly in front of the public.

S

Speaker 7 13:53

Yeah, I think it's a lot easier when you can talk to people and connect with them, and just sort of see like what their interests are

K

Kayla Solway 14:01

for readers. The festival is also a chance to discover new books and connect with other people who share their love of reading. I will say it's great to see everybody out here. It's awesome that this even exists because it doesn't. We're in Niagara Falls, so it doesn't really exist for us. So this is awesome. With authors, publishers, and book lovers, all in one place. Word on the street is a look at who's shaping Canada's literary community. For on-the-record news, I'm Kayla Solway.

S

Speaker 8 14:30

The Latin parade and Hispanic fiesta returned to Toronto's Sankofa Square last weekend. Organized by the Hispanic Canadian Heritage Council, the event showcased the presence, contributions, and diversity of the community. OTR reporter Isha Rizwan was there for the celebrations and has the story.

I

Isha Rizwan 14:53

Featuring a 50 PCUS marching band, an authentic Guatemalan marimba band, and community delegations, the. Represented at least 20 Latin American countries. The parade ended at Sankofa Square, and the space has transformed into a cultural showcase.

S

Speaker 9 15:08

I was born and raised in Venezuela, and now here I live in Canada. So I want to be part of the experience and also talk to many other Latinos. So yes, we're very friendly. I'm born in Cuba, so I thought it'd be nice to meet some more people from that speak Spanish.

S

Speaker 10 15:26

The event marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month this October, and was organized to honor the rich history and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities.

S**Speaker 11 15:35**

We are very hardworking people, and I believe we are. We try to be happy most of the most of the time, no matter what. We we try to smile always, and yeah, we have a lot of hope. Hope things get get better.

S**Speaker 12 15:51**

It's for quality the produce. It's for the people know the culture, food, and enjoy the everything.

S**Speaker 10 16:03**

From traditional Bolivian folk music and Mexican America to the rhythms of Brazilian carnival and the energy of modern Latino heads, the celebration featured a vibrant lineup of live performances showcasing the rich diversity. People from different cultures are joining in on dropping dance classes, shopping for handmade crafts by local artisans, and sampling traditional food for On The Record News. This is Isha Rizwan.

S**Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 16:26**

Film fever continued after TIFF this past weekend for Tamil Canadians in Richmond Hill. has more.

V**Vaishnavi Sriparan 16:35**

The seventh annual Toronto Thamel International Film Festival brought together filmmakers, actors, and audiences for three days of screenings and events. Among this year's selection is *Tainted Silence* a film co-directed by Toronto filmmakers Fai San Tiruvanana Selvin and Lojin Kalechalvin. For the team, this selection was more than just a five-year project coming to life; it was a stepping stone.

S**Speaker 7 16:58**

My skills as a filmmaker are growing, but now I want to push forward. I want to be able to create something more. I want to be able to go to the next big film festival and showcase that I can do this. The

V Vaishnavi Sriparan 17:09

festival comes just one week after the TIF brought international attention to two Thermo films.

S Speaker 13 17:16

Honestly, it's a proud moment because it also shows like, hey, like everyone has an opportunity, and everyone has a chance to do it. I think Subraj has been a well-known director, and this isn't like his first project that he's doing it. He's done multiple projects prior. For

V Vaishnavi Sriparan 17:29

young Thamels, the festival offered a glimpse into career paths they may not have considered before.

S Speaker 14 17:36

In the Tamil lik community, filmmaking and like arts, anything related to creative arts, is the like mostly like looked upon like looked looked at, and so I feel like this really gets a lot of people to actually understand that there is like these different pathways when when it comes to careers and stuff.

S Speaker 10 17:52

For filmmakers like Bison and Logan, festivals like this are creating more opportunities to share Them's stories and connect with the audiences right here in the GTA. For On The Record News, I'm Vaishnavi Sriparan.

S Speaker 15 18:04

Now turning to entertainment, here's Julia Pen with the latest.

J

Julia Pen 18:08

Toronto is once again buzzing with entertainment events, bringing audiences together across the city. The 19th annual Palestine Film Festival is underway, with in-person screenings and events running until October four, and online programming until October nine. Also on the big screen this week, director Sayu Jin's *Children of Pyongyang* will be shown at Toronto's Palmerston Theater on October two and three. The screenings are a part of an international workshop exploring how children affected by historical tragedies around the world are remembered. Meanwhile, Phoebe Bridges returns to the stage after three years, bringing her newest album, *Lost Weekend*, on tour at Scotiabank Arena on October 1st and 2nd. The concerts are expected to be phone and camera-free, with recording devices restricted during the performance. And for art lovers, Louis Blanche is set to return on October three for its 20-th anniversary. The event will be running from 7p.m. to seven a.m. This year's theme is *Tomorrow's Memories*, which looks back at the festival's 20-year history. And that's all for entertainment news. Back to the desk.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 19:16

The city of Hamilton is asking residents to have their say on the future of Shadok Golf Course Lands. The city is reviewing how the property can provide greater value to the community while remaining publicly owned and continuing to support golf operations. Residents have until October 2 to submit their comments. Molly Simpson has more on the story.

M

Molly Simpson 19:40

Generations of people have been playing golf on the two Shadokh courses in Hamilton. For them, moving away from the municipal golf course could make the sport less affordable for young players.

S

Speaker 13 19:52

I accept in the fact that it's a municipal course. It's not as expensive as some courses, and it's a place where kids learn to play golf. I learned to play golf there, so I would hate to lose that history, and I would hate to lose the history or the opportunity to maybe expand the junior programs, use the Martin more often for junior programs, build a junior membership back up and get more kids playing golf there.

V

Vaishnavi Sriparan 20:24

According to the city website, environmentalism is a core component of their plans to redesign the space. Some of their considerations include enhanced green space, natural area restoration, biodiversity improvements, stormwater management, and potential community-focused uses like urban agriculture. On their part, environmental advocates also have concerns about the impact of golf courses on the environment, arguing that these lands can come with significant environmental costs. I think what this opportunity is is a really good

S

Speaker 14 21:00

chance to take a look at a really big parcel of land that is a unique, like it's like we don't have 112 acre hectare piece of land in the city of Hamilton where we can kind of say is there alternative uses or re envisioning opportunities here for this piece of property that can be doing other things, given the you know threats that we have from climate change.

V

Vaishnavi Sriparan 21:32

For others who use the Chedoke lands for recreation, a change to the landscape could be worth considering.

S

Speaker 16 21:38

Sure, I don't know. I mean, I'd love to see like what the community says, what the need is across. Like Hamilton already has so many green spaces, but it'd be great to see yeah more naturalized spaces using less pesticides.

S

Speaker 17 21:51

The city of Hamilton has owned and operated the course for over 100 years. The courses were designed by Stanley Thompson, a famous figure in golf architecture, golf has been played at these courses since 1896. This is Molly Simpson from On The Record News.

C

Chris Harrison 22:11

Continuing with our sports segment, more updates on the Maple Leafs with their season opener Tuesday night against the Montreal Canadiens. Shaya Rahmani has this and more.

S

Shaya Rahmani 22:23

Toronto sports scene is shifting gears as September comes to a close. The Maple Leafs open their regular season Tuesday night against the Montreal Canadiens, losing three to two at Scotiabank Arena. William Nealanders scored twice for Toronto in the loss. First overall pick Gavin McKenna also made his NHL debut. Now the attention turns to baseball. The Blue Jays wrapped up their regular season Sunday with a five-to-one win over the Cincinnati Reds at Rogers Center, but the victory came too late. Toronto finished the season 79 and 83, last in the American League East, and missed the playoffs after reaching the World Series last season. And from baseball to soccer, in its first match since the World Cup, Canada defeated Chile 1-0 Saturday at BMO Field, with Jonathan David scoring the game's only goal. The night also featured an emotional farewell for Canadian veteran Junior Hoyle. Finally, closer to home, the TMU Bold are back in action this week. The men's soccer team enters the week after a 3-2 win over Trent on Sunday, improving to four wins, one loss, and one draw, they'll return to Downsview Park Saturday to host the Royal Military College Paladins at 3:15 p.m. While during the same day, TMU's men's rugby team faces the Royal Military College team away. The women's soccer team will also be at home Saturday, taking on RMC at 1p.m. before hosting Carlton at one. Both soccer teams will be looking to bounce back and build momentum as OUA regular season heads into October. That's all for sports. Back to you.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 23:53

Now let's hear from the newsroom with our live news flash, where we have Sofie Gelder standing by live. Sophie, what do you have for us this week?

S

Sofie Gelder 24:03

Thanks, Shaaranki. Starting with news about AI use at university, OTR reporter Sydney Warren spoke with students about a new KPMG survey that found 75% of Canadian students use generative AI for schoolwork. TMU students say they're worried about the long-term effects as they watch their peers grow more dependent on it, earlier this week a video on social media showed someone poking holes in condoms at TMU's Center for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support. Condoms are now available to students inside a monitored office. OTR reporter Kayla Solway reached out to TMU Community Safety and Security. They say that the incidents have been reported to the Toronto Police Service and remain under investigation. Both stories are available on our website at ontherecordnews.ca. Coming soon to our website, an update from OTR reporter Aaliyah Nguyen on the men's bowl basketball team and what the roster will look. As the 2026-2027 season approaches, the Toronto Blue Jays won't be going to the playoffs this season. OTR reporter Mally Alcancia and Ethan Clark will be hearing from fans after the season ended earlier this week. And lastly, what will be at the center of the next TMSU board meeting on October 1st? OTR reporter Evan Perry will be there to tell us what's on the table. Make sure to watch our episodes for more news and information, as well as check out our website on therecordnews.ca. Back to you in the studio.

C

Chris Harrison 25:34

Thanks, Sophie. Before we come to the end of today's segment, Aaliyah Nguyen has more on this week's weather.

A

Aaliyah Nguyen 25:40

Hey, Toronto. We're expecting cloudy conditions across the GTA, with occasional sunshine on Wednesday, with a chance of showers starting at 11 p.m. leading to a full day of rain on Thursday. The high in the city will be 22 degrees, with a low of 18 degrees. Expect similar weather conditions and temperatures spanning the neighboring regions. And for those of you who are excited for fall fashion, it is finally time to start looking for our cardigans and long trench coats. Winds will reach up to 18 kilometers per hour later this afternoon. Thursday will reach a high of 22 degrees and a low of 16 degrees. Friday will continue raining until morning and then clear up to some sun and clouds for the remainder of the day, reaching a high of 19 degrees and a low of 10 degrees. The weekend promises some fun with sunny conditions and a few clouds, but the weather continues to become chillier. Saturday will see a high of 16 degrees and a low of 11 degrees. Sunday will have a high of 18 degrees and a low of 9 degrees. And that's all for the weather. Now back to you.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 26:40

Thanks, Alia. On October 7, On The Record News and our friends at the Bridge will be hosting a Ward 13 debate at Central Neighborhood House. Nine of the top 11 councilor candidates have agreed to participate. The debate will be live streamed at 630 p.m. on On The Record News's YouTube channel. That's all for On The Record today. I'm Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa,

C

Chris Harrison 27:04

and I'm Chris Harrison. Thanks for tuning in. See you next week.